



PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

FOURTH SESSION OF THE FOURTH LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL UNDER THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ACT, 1919

Vol. LXIX (Nos. 1 to 6)

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PERSONNEL OF THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

Governor of Madras.

His Excellency Lieut.-Col. the Right Hon. Sir GEORGE FREDERICK STANLEY, P.C., G.C.I.E., C.M.G. Took his seat on the 12th November 1929.

Members of the Executive Council.

1. The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur, K.C.I.E., Home Member. Took his seat on the 30th March 1925 and is in charge of the following portfolios :—

I.—Provincial Subjects.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Police, including Railway Police and C.I.D. | 12. Government Houses, Staff and equipment of His Excellency the Governor. |
| 2. Regulation of betting and gambling. | 13. Government Presses. |
| 3. Prevention of cruelty to animals. | 14. Elections for Indian and Provincial Legislatures. |
| 4. Control of poisons. | 15. Industrial matters included under the following heads :— |
| 5. Control of vehicles. | (a) Factories. |
| 6. Control of dramatic performances and cinematographs. | (b) Settlement of labour disputes. |
| 7. Control of newspapers, books and printing presses. | (c) Boilers. |
| 8. Laccadives. | (d) Gas. |
| 9. European vagrancy. | (e) Smoke nuisances. |
| 10. European and Anglo-Indian education. | (f) Welfare of labour including depressed classes. |
| 11. Regulation of medical and other professional qualifications and standards. | 16. Criminal tribes. |
| | 17. Stores and Stationery (required for Reserved Departments). |

II.—Central Subjects.

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| 1. Control of petroleum and explosives. | 3. Arms and ammunition. |
| 2. Central police organization. | 4. Emigration and immigration. |
| | 5. Pilgrimage to the Hedjaz. |

2. The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR, Kt., Law Member. Took his seat on the 25th April 1928 and is in charge of the following portfolios :—

I.—Provincial Subjects.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Administration of justice, including constitution, powers, maintenance and organization of courts of civil and criminal jurisdiction within the province. | 3. Administrator-General and Official Trustees. |
| 2. Provincial law reports. | 4. Escheats. |
| | 5. Coroners. |
| | 6. Treasure-trove. |
| | 7. Non-judicial and judicial stamps. |
| | 8. Prisons and prisoners. |

I.—Provincial Subjects—cont.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>9. Industrial matters included under the following head :
Electricity, including hydro-electric scheme.</p> | <p>10. Forests (including Cinchona) except panchayat forests.</p> <p>11. Minor Ports.</p> |
|--|---|

II.—Central Subjects.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1. Civil law.</p> <p>2. Inventions and designs.</p> <p>3. Copyright.</p> <p>4. Criminal law.</p> <p>5. Major ports.</p> | <p>6. Shipping and navigation.</p> <p>7. Lighthouses.</p> <p>8. Port quarantine and marine hospitals.</p> |
|--|---|

3. The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL, K.O.I.E., C.S.I., C.B.E., V.D., I.C.S., Member in charge of Revenue. Took his seat on the 29th June 1929 and is in charge of the following portfolios :—

I.—Provincial Subjects.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1. Land Revenue administration as described under the following heads, namely :—</p> <p>(a) Assessment and collection of land revenue.</p> <p>(b) Maintenance of land records ; survey for revenue purposes ; records of rights.</p> <p>(c) Laws regarding land tenures ; relations of landlords and tenants ; collection of rents.</p> <p>(d) Court of Wards, encumbered and attached estates.</p> <p>(e) Land improvement and agricultural loans.</p> <p>(f) Colonization and disposal of Crown lands.</p> <p>(g) Management of Government estates.</p> <p>(h) Panchayat forests.</p> <p>2. Yeomiahs, inams and hereditary pensions.</p> <p>3. Water-supplies, irrigation and canals, drainage and embankments ; water storage and water power.</p> | <p>4. Inland waterways including shipping and navigation thereon.</p> <p>5. Economic condition including wages and prices and famine-relief.</p> <p>6. Land acquisition, excepting notifications under subsection (1) of section 4 and declarations under subsection (1) of section 6 of the Land Acquisition Act, 1894, where the public purpose referred to in the said subsections appertains to a transferred subject.</p> <p>7. Development of mineral resources.</p> <p>8. Protection of wild birds and animals.</p> <p>9. Pounds and prevention of cattle trespass.</p> <p>10. Provincial gazetteers.</p> <p>11. Agency tracts.</p> <p>12. Fortnightly reports and preliminary special reports to the Government of India.</p> <p>13. General service questions.</p> <p>14. Office procedure.</p> <p>15. Secretariat.</p> <p>16. Matters of a general nature not allocated elsewhere.</p> |
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II.—Central Subjects.

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| 1. Geological survey. | 8. Territorial changes. |
| 2. Mineral development. | 9. Immovable property in possession of the Governor-General in Council. |
| 3. Botanical survey. | 10. All-India services. |
| 4. Survey of India. | 11. Public Services Commission. |
| 5. Zoological survey. | 12. Reforms. |
| 6. Meteorology. | |
| 7. Census and Statistics. | |

4. The hon. Sir. Hopetoun STOKES, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., I.C.S., Finance Member, took his seat on the 19th March 1930 and is in charge of the following portfolios :—

I.—Provincial Subjects.

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| 1. Provincial finance. | 4. Preservation and translation of ancient manuscripts. |
| 2. Pensions. | 5. Central Record office. |
| 3. Local Fund audit. | |

II.—Central Subjects.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. (a) Defence of India. | 8. Currency and coinage. |
| (b) Naval and Military works and cantonments. | 9. Public debt of India. |
| 2. External relations, including naturalization and aliens and pilgrimage beyond India except to the Hedjaz. | 10. Savings banks. |
| 3. Relations with States in India. | 11. Indian Audit Department. |
| 4. Political charges. | 12. Commerce, including Banks and Insurance. |
| 5. Communications. | 13. Trading Companies and other Associations. |
| 6. Posts and telegraphs and telephones, including wireless installations. | 14. Opium (Central questions regarding —). |
| 7. Sources of all-India revenues. | 15. Central Research. |
| | 16. Ecclesiastical. |
| | 17. Archæology. |
| | 18. Regulation of ceremonial titles, orders, precedence and civil uniform. |
| | 19. Subjects not allocated elsewhere. |

Ministers.

1. The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI, Minister for Local Self-Government. Took his seat on the 5th November 1932 and is in charge of the following portfolios :—

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Local Self-Government including village panchayats. | 5. Adulteration of food-stuffs and other articles. |
| 2. Medical administration. | 6. Light and Feeder Railways and Tramways within municipal areas. |
| 3. Public Health and Sanitation and Vital Statistics. | 7. Stores and Stationery (required for Transferred Departments). |
| 4. Religious and Charitable Endowments. | |

2. The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN, Minister for Public Works. Took his seat on the 5th November 1932 and is in charge of the following portfolios :—

- | | |
|---|----------------------------|
| 1. Agriculture. | 4. Co-operative Societies. |
| 2. Civil Veterinary Department. | 5. Registration. |
| 3. Public Works (Buildings, Roads, Ferries, Rope-ways, etc.). | 6. Weights and Measures. |

3. The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR, Minister for Education and Excise. Took his seat on the 5th November 1932 and is in charge of the following portfolios :—

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Education (other than European and Anglo-Indian education). | 4. Fisheries. |
| 2. Excise. | 5. Libraries, Museums and Zoological Gardens. |
| 3. Development of Industries. | 6. Pilgrimage within British India. |

PRINCIPAL OFFICERS OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

President.

The hon. Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI.

Deputy President.

M.R.Ry. Rao Bahadur G. JAGANNADHA RAJU Garu.

Panel of Chairmen.

M.R.Ry. M. A. MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR Avargal.

„ M. DEVADASAN Avargal.

YAKUB HASAN SAHIB Bahadur.

M.R.Ry. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR Avargal.

Secretary to the Council.

M.R.Ry. Diwan Bahadur R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR Avargal, B.A., M.L.

Assistant Secretary to the Council.

M.R.Ry. D. K. V. RAGHAVA VARMA Garu, B.A., B.L.

வாய்மையே வெல்லும்
TRUTH ALONE TRIUMPHS

LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
1 Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.	Madras City, Muhammadan Urban.
2 Ahmed Meeran Sahib Bahadur, Moulvi Hafeez Anumanthakudi Mustapha.	Ramnad cum Tinnevely, Muhammadan Rural.
3 Alagannan Chettiyar, Rao Sahib A. S.	Madura, N.-M. Rural.
4 Alamelumangathayaramma, Mrs. K.	NOMINATED.
5 Annamalai Chettiyar, S. A. A.	Nattukottai Nagarathars' Association.
6 Appadurai Pillai, Diwan Bahadur A.	Central Districts—Indian Christian.
7 Arasu, V. T.	NOMINATED.
8 Ari Gowder, H. B.	The Nilgiris, N.-M. Rural.
9 Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.	Central Districts, Muhammadan Rural.
10 Basu Dev, C.	NOMINATED.
11 Bayappa Reddi, P.	Anantapur, N.-M. Rural.
12 Beyabani Sahib Bahadur, S. M. K.	Ceded Districts, Muhammadan Rural.
13 Bhanoji Rao, A. V.	NOMINATED.
14 Birley, Frank	Madras Chamber of Commerce.
15 Campbell, K.O.I.E., C.S.I., C.B.E., v.d., I.C.S., The hon. Sir Archibald.	EX OFFICIO.
16 Davis, O.B.E., J. A.	Anglo-Indian.
17 Devadasan, M.	NOMINATED.
18 Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.	NOMINATED.
19 Duraiswami Reddiyar, K. M.	South Arcot, N.-M. Rural.
20 Ellappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur S.	Salem, N.-M. Rural.
21 Foulkes, R.	NOMINATED.
22 Gopalaswami Ayyangar, Diwan Bahadur N.	NOMINATED.
23 Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur M.	Be'lary, N.-M. Rural.
24 Harischandrudu Nayudu, A. ..	Godavari East, N.-M. Rural.
25 Hood, I.C.S., H. M.	NOMINATED.
26 Indriah, C.	Godavari West, N.-M. Rural.
27 Jagannadha Raju, Rao Bahadur G. (<i>Deputy President</i>).	Vizagapatam, N.-M. Rural.
28 Jagannatham, H. M.	NOMINATED.
29 Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.	Chingleput, N.-M. Rural.

Name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
30 Kesavaramamurti K.	Nayudu, Cocanada City, N.-M. Urban.
31 Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Khan Bahadur P.	Bahadur, Madura and Trichinopoly <i>cum</i> Srirangam, Muhammadan Urban.
32 Kolanda Reddi, Rai Sahib C.	Kistna, N.-M. Rural.
33 Koti Reddi, K.	Cuddapah, N.-M. Rural.
34 Krishnamurti, Rao Bahadur D.	NOMINATED.
35 Krishnan, C.	NOMINATED.
36 Krishnan Nayar, <i>Kt.</i> , The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M.	EX OFFICIO.
37 Krishnaswami Ayyar, <i>Kt.</i> , Diwan Bahadur Sir Alladi.	NOMINATED.
38 Krishnayya Choudari, P. V.	Guntur, N.-M. Rural.
39 Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri (Raja Velugoti Sarvagnya Kumara Krishnayachendrula Bahadur Varu).	Nellore, N.-M. Rural.
40 Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. (<i>Minister</i>).	Tinnevely, N.-M. Rural.
41 Kuppuswami Choudari, J.	Guntur, N.-M. Rural.
42 Ladden, W. W.	Madras Trades Association.
43 Lakshmana Reddi, G.	Anantapur, N.-M. Rural.
44 Langley, W. K. M.	Madras Planters.
45 Madanagopal Nayudu, R.	Madras City, N.-M. Urban.
46 Madhusoodhanan Thangal, P.	NOMINATED.
47 Maharaja of Venkatagiri (Sri Raja Velugoti Sir Govinda Krishna Yachendrula Bahadur Varu, K.C.I.E., Lieutenant-Colonel).	North Central Landholders.
48 Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.	Northern Circars, Muhammadan Rural.
49 Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.	South Kanara, Muhammadan Rural.
50 Manikkavelu Nayakar, M. A.	North Arcot, N.-M. Rural.
51 Metherell, J. K.	European, Madras Presidency.
52 Millar, W. H.	Madras Chamber of Commerce.
53 Moidoo Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur T. M.	Malabar, Muhammadan Rural.
54 Moses, P. C.	Northern Districts, Christian.
55 Muhammad Meera Ravuttar Bahadur, K. P. V. S.	Madura <i>cum</i> Trichinopoly, Muhammadan Rural.
56 Muniswami Nayudu, Diwan Bahadur B.	Chittoor, N.-M. Rural.
57 Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.	NOMINATED.
58 Murugappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur A. M. M.	Rampad, N.-M. Rural.

Name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
59 Muthiah Chettiyar, M. A. ..	Southern India Chamber of Commerce.
60 Muthu Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur P. C.	Madura, N.-M. Rural.
61 Nachiyappa Gounder, K. A. ..	Salem, N.-M. Rural.
62 Nadimuthu Pillai, A. Pl. N. V.	Tanjore N.-M. Rural.
63 Nanjappa Bahadur, Subadar-Major S. A.	NOMINATED.
64 Narasa Reddi, T.	Cuddapah, N.-M. Rural.
65 Narasimhaswami, Rao Sahib, D. V.	Godavari East, N.-M. Rural.
66 Narayanan Nambiyar, V. P.	Malabar, N.-M. Rural.
67 Narayanaswami Pillai, Rao Bahadur T. M.	Trichinopoly, N.-M. Rural.
68 Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.	Madras City, N.-M. Urban.
69 Palat, R. M.	West Coast Landholders.
70 Pannirselvam, Rao Bahadur A. T.	Tanjore and Trichinopoly <i>cum</i> Madura, Christian.
71 Parthasarathi Ayyangar, C. R.	Chittoor, N.-M. Rural.
72 Patnaik Mahasayo, Sriman M. G.	Ganjam, N.-M. Rural.
73 Patro, Kt., Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.	Ganjam, N.-M. Rural.
74 Pattabhiramayya, K.	Kistna, N.-M. Rural.
75 Pattagar of Palayakottai (Rai Bahadur Nallathambi Sarkarai Manradiyar).	Coimbatore, N.-M. Rural.
76 Peddi Raju, P.	Godavari West, N.-M. Rural.
77 Pocker Sahib Bahadur, B. ..	Malabar, Muhammadan Rural.
78 Premayya, G. R.	NOMINATED.
79 Rajagopala Pillai, P. V. ..	NOMINATED.
80 Raja of Bobbili, The hon. (Sri Ravu Swetachallapathi Ramakrishna Ranga Rao) (Minister).	Vizagapatam, N.-M. Rural.
81 Raja of Kallikote (Raja Sri Ramachandra Marda Raja Deo Garu).	Northern Landholders, I.
82 Raja of Parlakimedi (Sri Sri Sri Krishna Chandra Gajapathi Narayana Deo Garu).	Ganjam, N.-M. Rural.
83 Rajan, The hon. Mr. P. T. (Minister).	Madura, N.-M. Rural.
84 Ramachandra Padayachi, P. K.	South Arcot, N.-M. Rural.
85 Ramachandra Reddi, The hon. Mr. B. (President).	Nellore, N.-M. Rural.
86 Ramakrishna Reddi, A. ..	Kurnool, N.-M. Rural.
87 Ramalingam Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur T. A.	Coimbatore, N.-M. Rural.

Name of member.

Name and class of constituency.

88 Ramamurti, Rao Sahib Pandit Ganala.	NOMINATED.
89 Raman Menon, K. P. ..	Malabar, N.-M. Rural.
90 Ramaswami Ayyar, T. S. ..	Madras University.
91 Ramaswami Mudaliyar, V. M.	North Arcot, N.-M. Rural.
92 Ranganatha Mudaliyar, A. ..	Bellary, N.-M. Rural.
93 Ranganatha Mudaliyar, G. ..	Tanjore, N.-M. Rural.
94 Ranganatha Mudaliyar, M. D. T.	Tinnevelly <i>cum</i> Palamcottah, N.-M. Urban.
95 Rangaswami Reddi, M. B. ..	North Arcot, N.-M. Rural.
96 Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C. S.	Coimbatore, N.-M. Rural.
97 Sahajanandam, Swami A. S. ..	NOMINATED.
98 Sami Venkatachalam Chetti ..	Madras City, N.-M. Urban.
99 Sessa Reddi, B. P.	Kurnool, N.-M. Rural.
100 Shetty, A. B.	South Kanara, N.-M. Rural.
101 Simhachalam Pantulu, Gade.	Guntur, N.-M. Rural.
102 Singam Ayyangar, K. ..	Trichinopoly <i>cum</i> Srirangam, N.-M. Urban.
103 Siva Raj, Rao Sahib N. ..	NOMINATED.
104 Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar, K. S.	Tanjore, N.-M. Rural.
105 Smith, C.I.E., I.C.S., E. Conran.	NOMINATED.
106 Soundara Pandian, W. P. A.	NOMINATED.
107 Sreshta, M. S.	West Coast, Christian.
108 Srinivasa Ayyangar, T. C. ..	Ramnad, N.-M. Rural.
109 Srinivasan, Rao Bahadur, R.	NOMINATED.
110 Sriramulu, G.	NOMINATED.
111 Stokes, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., I.C.S., The hon. Sir Hopetoun.	EX OFFICIO.
112 Subbarayan, Dr. P. (Zamindar of Kumaramangalam).	South Central Landholders.
113 Subrahmanyam Chetti, Rao Sahib P.	NOMINATED.
114 Subrahmanya Bhatt, U. C. ..	South Kanara, N.-M. Rural.
115 Sundara Rao Nayudu, T. ..	Madras City, N.-M. Urban.
116 Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.	Tanjore, Muhammadan.
117 Thomas, Daniel	Ramnad <i>cum</i> Tinnevelly, Christian.
118 Thorne, C.I.E., I.C.S., J. A. ..	NOMINATED.
119 Usman Sahib Bahadur, K.C.I.E., The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed.	EX OFFICIO.
120 Vasudeva Pillai, V. G. ..	NOMINATED.
121 Vedachala Mudaliyar, M. ..	Chingleput, N.-M. Rural.
122 Venkatarama Ayyar, K. R. ..	Madura City, N.-M. Urban.
123 Venugopal Nayudu, Rao Bahadur R. K.	South Arcot, N.-M. Rural.

Name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
124 Viswanatha Rao, Diwan Bahadur V. N.	NOMINATED.
125 Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.	East Coast, Muhammadan Rural.
126 Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.	North Arcot cum Chingleput, N-M. Rural.
127 Zamindar of Bodinayakkanur (Kamaraja Pandia Nayakar, T. V. K.)	Southern Landholders.
128 Zamindar of Chemudu (Sri Vyricherla Narayana Gajapati Raju).	Vizagapatam City, N.-M. Urban.
129 Zamindar of Ettaiyapuram (Raja Jaga Veera Rama Kumara Venkateswara Ettappa Nayakar Ayyan).	Tinnevelly, N.-M. Rural.
130 Zamindar of Kirlampudi (Sri Raja Ravi Ramakrishna Ranga Rao).	NOMINATED.
131 Zamindar of Minampalli (K. C. M. Venkatachala Reddiyar).	Trichinopoly, N.-M. Rural.
132 Zamindar of Mirzapuram (Mirzapuram Raja alias Venkataramayya Appa Rao).	Northern Landholders, II.

Special Members.

133 Ramachandra Bahadur M.	Rao, Diwan	Nominated for the consideration of the Co-operative Land Mortgage Banks Bill.
134 Hall, C.I.E., O.B.E., I.C.S., J. F.		Nominated for the Periyar Irrigation Tank Preservation Bill.
135 Smith, W. Erlam		} Nominated for the consideration of the Madras Public Libraries Bill.
136 Krishnaswami Ayyar, K. V.		
137 Tampoe, I.C.S., A. McG. C.		Nominated for the consideration of the Bill to amend the Madras Local Board Act, 1920, and the Madras Elementary Education Act, 1920 (No. 2 of 1934.)

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

OFFICIAL REPORT.

*Fourth Session of the Fourth Legislative Council,
under the Government of India Act, 1919.*

Monday, the 29th January 1934.

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (the hon. Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI) in the Chair.

PRESENT :

Usman Sahib Bahadur, K.C.I.E., The
hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed.
Krishnan Nayar, Kt., The hon. Diwan
Bahadur Sir M.
Campbell, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., C.B.E., V.D.,
I.C.S., The hon. Sir Archibald.
Stokes, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., I.C.S., The hon.
Sir Hopetoun.
Raja of Bobbili, The hon. the.
Rajan, The hon. Mr. P. T.
Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The hon.
Diwan Bahadur S.
Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.
Alamelumangathayaramma, Mrs. K.
Annamalai Chettiyar, Mr. S. A. A.
Appadurai Pillai, Diwan Bahadur A.
Arasu, Mr. V. T.
Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.
Basu Dev, Mr. C.
Bhanoji Rao, Mr. A. V.
Birley, Mr. F.
Davis, Mr. J. A.
Devadasan, Mr. M.
Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.
Duraishwami Reddiyar, Mr. K. M.
Ellappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur S.
Foulkes, Mr. R.
Gopalaswami Ayyangar, Diwan Baha-
dur N.
Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Baha-
dur M.
Harischandrudu Nayudu, Mr. A.
Hood, I.C.S., Mr. H. M.
Indrayya, Mr. C.
Jagannatha Raju, Rao Bahadur G.
Jagannatham, Mr. H. M.
Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.
Kesavaramamurti Nayudu, Mr. K.
Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, Khan
Bahadur P.

Koti Reddi, Mr. K.
Krishnayya Choudari, Mr. P. V.
Krishnamurti, Rao Bahadur D.
Krishnan, Mr. C.
Kumararaja of Venkatagiri.
Kuppuswami Choudari, Mr. J.
Ladden, Mr. W. W.
Lakshmana Reddi, Mr. G.
Langley, Mr. W. K. M.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.
Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.
Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur,
Khan Bahadur.
Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.
Metherell, Mr. J. K.
Miller, Mr. W. H.
Moidoo Sahib Bahadur, Khan Baha-
dur T. M.
Moses, Mr. P. C.
Muhammad Meera Ravuttar, Mr. K.
P. V. S.
Muniswami Nayudu, Diwan Bahadur
B.
Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.
Muthiah Chettiyar, Mr. M. A.
Muthu Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur P. C.
Nachiyappa Gounder, Mr. K. A.
Nadimuthu Pillai, Mr. A. Pl. N. V.
Nanjappa Bahadur, Subadar-Major S.
A.
Narasa Reddi, Mr. T.
Narasimhaswami, Rao Sahib D. V.
Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P.
Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.
Palat, Mr. R. M.
Pannirselvam, Rao Bahadur A. T.
Parthasarathi Ayyangar, Mr. C. R.
Patnaik Mahasayo, Sriman M. G.
Patro, Kt., Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.
Pattabhiramayya, Mr. K.

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PRESENT—cont.

Pattagar of Palayakottai.
 Peddiraju, Mr. P.
 Premayya, Mr. G. R.
 Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V.
 Raja of Khallikote.
 Ramachandra Padayachi, Mr. P. K.
 Ramamurti, Rao Sahib Pandit Ganala.
 Raman Menon, Mr. K. P.
 Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. S.
 Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M.
 Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
 Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. G.
 Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. M. D. T.
 Rangaswami Reddi, Mr. M. B.
 Sahajanandam, Swami A. S.
 Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, Mr.
 Shetty, Mr. A. B.
 Simhachalam Pantulu, Mr. G.
 Siva Raj, Rao Sahib N.
 Smith, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. E. Conran.
 Soundara Pandian, Mr. W. P. A.
 Sreshtha, Mr. M. S.
 Srinivasa Ayyangar, Mr. T. C.

Srinivasan, Rao Bahadur R.
 Sriramulu, Mr. G.
 Subbarayan, Dr. P.
 Subrahmanya Chetti, Rao Sahib P.
 Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.
 Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.
 Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.
 Tampoe, I.C.S., Mr. A. Mc. G. C.
 Thangal, Mr. P. M.
 Thomas, Mr. Daniel.
 Thorne, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. J. A.
 Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.
 Vedachala Mudaliyar, Mr. M.
 Venkatarama Ayyar, Mr. K. R.
 Venngopal Nayudu, Rao Bahadur R. K.
 Viswanatha Rao, Diwan Bahadur V. N.
 Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.
 Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
 Zamindar of Chemudu.
 Zamindar of Kirlampudi.
 Zamindar of Mirzapuram.

I.—SWEARING IN OF NEW MEMBERS.

The following new Members were sworn in:—

- (1) Mr. W. H. MILLER.
- (2) „ J. K. METHERELL.
- (3) „ A. McG. C. TAMPOE.
- (4) Khan Bahadur YAHYA ALI SAHIB Bahadur.

[Note.—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—RESOLUTION OF SYMPATHY WITH THE PROVINCES AFFECTED BY THE EARTHQUAKE.

* Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“ Mr. President, I beg to move—

‘that this Council, on behalf of the Presidency of Madras, expresses its sincere sympathy with the Provinces affected by the recent earthquake in the appalling loss of life and destruction of property suffered by them in consequence thereof.’

“ Sir, loss of life and property especially in the Province of Bihar is a well-known fact to all the Members of this House. His Excellency the Viceroy has issued an appeal to the public to subscribe liberally to alleviate the suffering and distress in that Province. His Excellency the Governor has also made an appeal to the public to liberally contribute to the fund that has been announced by His Excellency the Viceroy and, I am sure, the people in the South, in their generous way, will do what they can to relieve the distress in Bihar. The leading local papers, the *Hindu* and the *Madras Mail*, have started funds of their own for helping the afflicted people in Bihar and I am gratified to note that the public response, specially to the appeal made

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by the *Hindu*, has been great and I am sure the editor and the proprietors of the *Hindu* and the *Madras Mail* deserve our thanks for the timely way in which they have stepped in to organize help to the afflicted people of Bihar. I also make a personal appeal to you, Mr. President, to see whether we cannot do anything more than expressing our sincere sympathy and raise a fund towards helping the people of Bihar. Only yesterday the Governor of Bihar issued an appeal and stated in what way the loss of life and property has been great. He estimates the loss to the Province in crores of rupees. It is impossible, as things stand to-day, for merely official agencies to repair the great loss and unless the people who have got money and can afford to help the afflicted people come forward, I am sure the difficulties of Bihar will be greater than they are to-day. I hope that not only this Council will pass this resolution, but with your help, Mr. President, Members will try to contribute their share towards relieving the distress in Bihar."

* The hon. Sir MAHOMED USMAN:—"I beg to second the motion and I am sure that the public of this Presidency will rise equal to the occasion by giving liberal contributions to the fund that has been opened in this connexion."

The resolution was put and carried unanimously.

III.—RESOLUTION OF CONGRATULATION TO HIS EXCELLENCY SIR GEORGE STANLEY ON HIS APPOINTMENT AS ACTING VICEROY AND GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDIA.

* Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Mr. President, the resolution that I am about to move is a formal one congratulating His Excellency Sir George Stanley on his appointment as Acting Viceroy and Governor-General of India. The resolution runs thus:

'this Council most respectfully congratulates His Excellency Sir George Stanley on his appointment as Acting Viceroy and Governor-General of India.'

"Sir, if I state that a person who is not known for co-operation with the Government, whose name I am not free to divulge, wrote to me when this appointment was announced that he was pleased that His Excellency was appointed as Acting Viceroy, because he was always fascinated by his straightness, we can understand in what esteem His Excellency is held in the Province. That is indeed a good test of opinion. Whatever may be the difference of opinion we may have had with His Excellency the Governor, I am sure everybody will admit that he has done everything according to his conscience and is helping forward the progress of this Province in the sphere of self-Government and the attainment of Swaraj. We are indeed gratified to note that it has been given to him, before he lays down his high office, to act as Viceroy and Governor-General of India and may I say that I am voicing the opinion of the whole Presidency when I say that we are delighted on his appointment as Viceroy. I hope that during such

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time he will occupy that exalted office, he will do everything that he can to help forward the progress of not only this Presidency but also of the whole country."

* The hon. Sir MAHOMED USMAN:—"Sir, it gives me the greatest pleasure to second this resolution. In offering our respectful felicitations to His Excellency Sir George Stanley on his appointment as acting Viceroy, I have great pleasure in associating the Government of Madras with this resolution and it is but right that this Legislative Council, in the practical working of which His Excellency has been taking such a deep interest, should pass such a resolution."

* Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I beg to associate myself heartily with the sentiments that have been expressed by the previous speakers on this motion. As one who has moved intimately with His Excellency, I may say that the position which has been conferred upon him is a well-deserved one. I may also say that in whatever he has done for the people of this Province, he has always been actuated by the best of motives. I have no doubt that during his term of acting Viceroyalty he will do everything that lies in his power to advance India as a whole towards Constitutional Reforms."

* The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"In the absence of the hon. the Chief Minister, I have great pleasure in associating myself with the sentiments expressed by the previous speakers. I may say that His Excellency's appointment as Acting Viceroy has been well received by the public and I am sure that during his short term of office he will do a great deal towards the advancement of this country and Madras in particular. With these few words I once more associate myself with the sentiments expressed by the previous speakers."

The resolution was put and carried unanimously.

IV.—RESOLUTION OF CONGRATULATION TO THE HON. SIR MAHOMED USMAN ON HIS APPOINTMENT AS ACTING GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

* Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I beg to move the resolution that stands in my name thus—

'this Council congratulates the hon. Sir Mahomed Usman on his appointment as Acting Governor of Madras.'

"I think, Mr. President, few words are needed from me to commend this resolution to the House. The House has been associated with Sir Mahomed for the last three and a half years as its Leader and before that as a Member of the Executive Council. Whatever might have been the difference of opinion between us and the hon. Sir Mahomed Usman, everybody will admit that he has always been noted for his courtesy and consideration. I am sure no one on any occasion has gone out of this House with a feeling of resentment against him and I may say that Sir Mahomed Usman has done all that he can to make the hon. Members of the House feel that he does everything in the light of his conscience. I am sure the whole Presidency

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is delighted to see that the Queen's Proclamation of 1858 has been given effect to by the appointment of Sir Mahomed to act as Governor. This is the first time in history, that an Indian has been appointed to the very high office of Governor in a Presidency and I am sure every one is pleased about it. This does not mean that we are considering this question as a racial one. Far from it, Sir Mahomed Usman is the senior Member of the Executive Council and it was only right that he was appointed as Acting Governor of Madras. I hereby tender my congratulations to him on behalf of the House."

* Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Sir, Muhammadan community in particular, and Indians as a whole, feel very much delighted for the honour that he been conferred on Sir Mahomed Usman by his being appointed as Governor of Madras. As I wrote to him, it really gladdens the heart of every one to think that at this critical period the Government thought fit to appoint the seniormost Member of the Executive Council as Acting Governor, thus giving effect to the principle that, whatever may be the race or caste to which a Member belongs, if he is the seniormost man, he may automatically step into the shoes of the Governor, when that office becomes vacant. From that standpoint, more than anything else, I congratulate him and may I hope that, during his term of office, however short it may be, he will associate himself with such movements as will advance the interests of this Province and bring credit to himself."

* The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"I have great pleasure in associating myself with the sentiments that have been expressed by the previous speakers. Sir Mahomed Usman has given extreme satisfaction to the Hindus as well as the Muhammadans, and he is very well known to the Members of this House. The long experience gained by him in his capacity as Home Member and also as Leader of the House will, I am sure, stand him in good stead when he acts as Governor of Madras. I have great pleasure in offering my hearty congratulations to him."

* Rao Sahib V. L. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"I rise to support the motion that has been moved on the floor of this House. Having had close intimacy with him, as one who has had the opportunity of having in his charge the Labour Portfolio, I may say with confidence that the depressed classes are really thankful to His Majesty's Government for appointing Sir Mahomed Usman as Acting Governor of Madras."

"Apart from the communal question, he is the first Indian to be appointed to this exalted office and, I am sure, Sir, that as the Head of the Administration, as Acting Governor, he will see that questions connected with the depressed classes receive sympathetic consideration."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Mr. President, I have great pleasure in associating myself with the sentiments expressed by previous speakers on the motion before the House. I need hardly say, Sir, that this appointment made by His Majesty's Government has given equal satisfaction to all the communities in this Province. It is not on account of the fact that Sir Mahomed Usman belongs to the Muslim

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community that Mussalmans are pleased, but they are happy to find that the Government have had a broad outlook on this question and have acted in a very statesmanlike manner in appointing an Indian to this post. This shows that the Government are really inclined to make great changes in the constitution of this country. If this is an indication of what the people of Madras are going to get in regard to the future constitution of the country, I am sure that something good is in store for us. On this foundation which has been so well and truly laid, I am sure that the Government would build a structure which will be satisfactory to all the people of this province."

* Mr. F. BIRLEY:—"Mr. President, Sir, on behalf of the European Members of this Council, I have great pleasure in associating myself with everything that has been said in this House in felicitating the hon. Sir Mahomed Usman on his appointment as Acting Governor of Madras."

* Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—"Mr. President, I think every community hails with satisfaction the appointment of Sir Mahomed Usman as Acting Governor of this Presidency. It is not only a personal compliment to him, it is a compliment to the whole of this Province. We all feel that this appointment is a compliment paid to the people of this Province. It shows that the British Government have acted in a most statesmanlike way. There was a fear expressed in certain quarters that the appointment might not go to an Indian. But this fear has now been dispelled and we must congratulate the authorities on having appointed Sir Mahomed Usman in spite of any difficulties there might have been to that course."

"As regards the hon. Sir Mahomed Usman himself, he has been doing work, which has been beset with great difficulties, with great tact and ability. He richly deserves this appointment and I am sure that, during his tenure of office, he will hold the scales evenly between all the communities and do his best to advance the interests of all communities in this country."

* Mr. J. A. DAVIS:—"Mr. President, it gives me peculiar pleasure, on behalf of the Anglo-Indian community which I represent, to congratulate the hon. Sir Mahomed Usman on his appointment as acting Governor. It is with thankfulness for what we have received at his hands and with a knowledge, born of experience, that we will get fair treatment at his hands when Governor of this Presidency, that I rise to tender the community's hearty congratulations to him in supporting the resolution that has been so appropriately moved."

The resolution was put and carried unanimously.

* The hon. Sir MAHOMED USMAN:—"Mr. President, may I with your permission, Sir, tender my very humble and grateful thanks to the hon. Members of this House who spoke so kindly about me, and to all the hon. Members of this august Body for having passed this resolution."

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V.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Criminal Settlement

Religious worship in the criminal settlement at Sitanagaram.

* 489 Q.—Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Christians in the criminal settlement at Sitanagaram were forbidden to worship in the church built for the purpose by the Salvation Army Mission which was till recently in charge of the settlement;

(b) whether it is a fact that specific orders were issued by the manager to the Christian inmates of the settlement prohibiting them from discoursing on religion; and

(c) whether the manager was acting on any instructions from the Government?

A.—(a) No. But meetings of all kinds were forbidden within this settlement as experience showed that whatever might be the ostensible objects of meetings they were liable to be misused for the purpose of arranging for the settlers to abscond and commit crime.

(b) No.

(c) No. The manager was acting under instructions from the Commissioner of Labour and the Inspector-General of Police when prohibiting meetings.

* Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA:—“With reference to the answer to clause (a) which says that all kinds of meetings were forbidden, may I know whether meetings for religious worship also were forbidden?”

The hon. Sir MAHOMED USMAN:—“No.”

Mr. DANIEL THOMAS:—“May I know whether any actual cases of misuse of meetings were brought to light?”

The hon. Sir MAHOMED USMAN:—“I think so. The Commissioner of Labour knows it.”

Mr. DANIEL THOMAS:—“Is this a temporary order, or is this going to be in force for all time?”

The hon. Sir MAHOMED USMAN:—“It is in force at present.”

Mr. DANIEL THOMAS:—“In the absence of actual cases of misuse of meetings, may I know whether the Government will be pleased to reconsider the matter and permit religious meetings?”

The hon. Sir MAHOMED USMAN:—“I shall further reconsider the matter. I cannot promise anything.”

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—“Are there any non-Christians in this settlement and has there been any objection to non-Christians attending the services in the church?”

The hon. Sir MAHOMED USMAN:—“I do not think there is any objection to non-Christians attending the church, but I do not think they generally attend it.”

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Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA:—"With reference to the answer to clause (c), may I ask whether the Government will be pleased to place the instructions on the table of the House?"

The hon. Sir MAHOMED USMAN:—"I do not think it is necessary."

Law and Order (General)

Alleged circular of the Government prohibiting the participation of Government servants in functions got up in connexion with Mahatma Gandhi's visit to Madras.

* 490 Q.—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Government have issued circulars to all Government servants to the effect that they should not take part in any function or demonstration or should not in any way help the same in connexion with the visit of Mahatma Gandhi to Madras?

A.—The Government have issued a circular to the effect that while Government servants should put no obstacles in the way of Mr. Gandhi's tour and should do nothing to interfere with non-officials who wish to welcome Mr. Gandhi or show sympathy for the cause of Harijan uplift, their participation in meetings and demonstrations in connexion with his visit is improper.

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to get a copy of the circular and place it on the table of the House?"

The hon. Sir MAHOMED USMAN:—"I do not think it is necessary. It is a confidential document."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"May I know in what way it is improper for Government officials to attend meetings in connexion with Harijan uplift?"

The hon. Sir MAHOMED USMAN:—"The question of Harijan uplift is associated with the question of temple entry, which is a very controversial question. Public servants, especially those belonging to the Judicial and Police Departments, may be called upon to adjudicate in the matter at any moment and it is better for them to take a neutral attitude."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know whether the prohibition applies even with regard to canvassing opinion for temple entry?"

The hon. Sir MAHOMED USMAN:—"I think the answer is very clear. It is here stated that 'participation in meetings and demonstrations in connexion with his visit is improper.' I do not wish to say anything further."

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—"May I know whether Government servants are prohibited also from contributing to the Harijan fund?"

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The hon. Sir MAHOMED USMAN:—"I have here given the extent to which they are prohibited from participating in meetings and demonstrations, etc. The hon. Member may draw his own inference."

Forests

Supply of manure leaves in South Kanara on payment of the seigniorage fee.

* 491 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) when the concessions in the reserved forests in South Kanara were first given to the ryots;

(b) whether before the grant of the concessions which have now been withdrawn in several reserves, the ryots were being allowed to remove manure leaves on payment of seigniorage; and

(c) whether the concession of removal of leaves on payment has been restored after the withdrawal of free-removal concession?

A.—(a) In 1922.

(b) Yes; but only in the North Mangalore Forest division.

(c) No; but the matter is under the consideration of the Chief Conservator of Forests.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"May I ask whether, before passing orders withdrawing the concessions in the reserve forest, the Government made any enquiry and found out how long the ryots had been depending on the reserves for manure leaves and whether they could get on with their cultivation without taking manure leaves from the reserve forest?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"As the answer to clause (a) shows, the ryots did not have that privilege before 1922."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"Before that, the ryots had been allowed to take manure leaves on payment of seigniorage and therefore it means that all along the ryots have been depending on manure leaves from the reserve forest for their cultivation?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"The whole question is under the consideration of the Government."

Scheme for the supply of manure leaves in South Kanara from the reserve forests.

* 492 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have made any enquiry and found out whether the supply of manure leaf from the reserves is necessary to meet the needs of ryots in villages lying in the vicinity of reserves (in South Kanara); and

(b) whether the Government have thought of any regulated scheme of manure leaf supply from reserves to villages where cultivation work is suffering on account of the withdrawal of concessions?

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A.—(a) Yes; an enquiry has been made from which it is found that there is a demand for manure leaf from reserves in certain places.

(b) The matter is under the consideration of the local officers.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" May I know whether the Government is aware that cultivation work, particularly in the case of people living near the coastal reserves, is suffering much on account of the withdrawal of these concessions? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" The Government are not aware of that."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" May I ask whether the answer to clause (a) does not admit that there is demand for manure leaves in certain places? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" Yes."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" May I ask whether the Government will be pleased to expedite the consideration of this matter and see what can be done? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" As far as possible they will do so."

Levy of double fees for grazing cattle in the reserve forests of Alangayam and Odugathur in the North Arcot district.

* 493 Q.—Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether any mahazar was received by the Collector of North Arcot and the Government from the villagers of Alangayam Pedur, Badakuppam, etc., of Tiruppattur taluk, regarding the hardships in getting their cattle to graze in the forest reserve; if so, what action was taken by the Collector and the Government in this regard;

(b) whether it is a fact that the District Forest Officer of Vellore, East, has addressed the Conservator of Forests about the iniquity of compelling the said villagers to take out a double permit consequent on the administrative re-division of the ranges into Alangayam and Odugathur;

(c) when this letter was addressed and what steps have been taken to set right this hardship;

(d) whether it is a fact that the original fee for grazing per head was 3 annas and that it was subsequently raised to 8 annas;

(e) whether it is a fact that a large area that was originally unreserved forest was converted into cultivable lands by giving dhar-kasts; if so, what steps the Government have taken to provide sufficient lands for the convenience of the villagers and their cattle;

(f) what the number of permits issued for the grazing in the villages mentioned in the mahazar from the year 1931 to 1933 is; and

(g) why the system of levy of double permit fees which was discontinued once before has now been re-introduced?

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A.—(a) Yes. The matter is under consideration.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Yes.

(e) In 1925 there were about 740 acres of waste land in the Peddur and Narasingapuram villages of which only about 79 acres were assigned on darkhast. A large extent is thus still available in the two villages.

(f) A statement^a furnishing the information is appended.

(g) The policy of collecting a single grazing fee for cattle grazing within a single grazing unit has not been departed from. Formerly the unit was a range but subsequently it was changed into a division. Owing to the bifurcation of the old Vellore Forest division into two divisions from 1st December 1932, the ryots of one division are now required to purchase an additional permit for taking their cattle to the forests of another division as under existing orders a permit is valid only for one division.

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"With reference to the answer to clause (g) may I know whether the Government are aware that the ryots who were grazing their cattle in a particular area before the bifurcation are now asked to pay double the amount for a permit to graze their cattle, in the same area?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"The whole question is under the consideration of the Government."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know whether the Government will please expedite the consideration, because this question has been pending for over eight months?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I shall do my best."

Ports

Closure of the ports of Thopputhurai and Adirampatnam in the Tanjore district.

* 494 Q.—Mr. G. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) when and for what reasons the seaports at Thopputhurai and Adirampatnam in the Tanjore district were closed; and

(b) whether it is a fact that before the ports were closed, paddy from some parts of the Tanjore district was being sent to Jaffna for sale through these ports?

A.—(a) The ports have not been closed; they are open to both foreign and coasting trade.

(b) Does not arise.

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Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—" May I know whether Vōda Revu in the Guntur district was appealed to be converted as a foreign port? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" The question does not arise out of this question."

Irrigation

Failure of water-supply in the Cumbum tank, Kurnool district.

* 495 Q.—S. M. K. BEYABANI SAHIB Bahadur:—Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Cumbum tank (Kurnool) was supplying water for double-crops till recent years but that it now hardly supplies water for one crop every year;

(b) what the reasons are for the failure of proper supply of water to this tank;

(c) whether it is a fact that a number of small ponds have been constructed in recent years in the big basin of this tank resulting in the obstruction of water flowing into this tank; and

(d) what the number is of such ponds and who ordered their construction?

A.—(a) & (b) The following papers^a are placed on the table:—

Chief Engineer's letter, dated 21st September 1931.

Proceedings of the Irrigation Development Board, No. 41, dated 13th October 1931.

Chief Engineer's letter, dated 22nd January 1932.

(c) & (d) The Government have not the information. The Collector reported in October 1931 that, during his inspection about that time, he found that in some places in the bed of the tank there was high ground near the bund and that there were many pools of water beyond them indicating that the ground there was very low, but that the surface drainage from the lands cultivated higher up in the tank-bed tended to fill up the shallows gradually. The construction of ponds in the tank-bed could not have been authorized. The Government will, however, make enquiries.

Preventive measures against submergence of Oobrapalayam, Kilanur.

* 496 Q.—Rao Sahib V. DHARMALINGAM PILLAI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the result of the enquiry promised to be made in answer to question No. 316, dated 5th August 1921;

(b) whether the submerging of the Oobrapalayam of Kilanur and its suburbs during the floods of 1930 was due to the absence of a diversion bund; and

(c) what action the Government propose to take to prevent such recurrence of overflow?

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A.—(a) Enquiry showed that the surplus of the Kilanur tank flowed over the fields, joined the Kattangal and eventually entered the Karikalavakkam tank, that all the surplus of the tank could not be diverted to the Karikalavakkam tank direct without damage to the lands under the Kilanur tank to the north of the road and that a diversion bund was never in existence. The Executive Engineer took the ryots to the place and explained the position.

(b) No. It was due to the unusual floods caused by the cyclone of 1930.

(c) There are no proposals to prevent recurrence of such overflow. The direction of flow is understood to be 'mamool' and consequently in extraordinary floods the spill over the area cannot be avoided.

Land Revenue Administration

Proceedings of the Conference of the landholders of South Kanara held at Puttur, on 3rd December 1933.

* 497 Q.—MR. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received a copy of the resolutions and the proceedings of the Conference of the landholders of South Kanara held at Puttur on 3rd December 1933; and

(b) what action the Government have taken or propose to take on the same?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) They are under the consideration of the Government.

MR. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"May I know whether the Government have now arrived at any decision?"

THE HON. SIR ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—"The resolutions in question related to various subjects like resettlement, revenue remissions, forest grievances and I think, other matters which I cannot remember at the present moment. I have stated that these matters are under the consideration of the Government. As regards revenue remission, an announcement has already been made. As regards resettlement, the matter is under the consideration of the Government."

Imposition of a uniform water-rate on lands under the Polavaram project.

* 498 Q.—MR. K. KESAVARAMAMURTI NAYUDU:—"Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) with reference to the answer at the meeting of the Legislative Council on the 18th March 1933 that 'the water-rate imposed under a project depends mainly upon the cost incurred in the supply of water' and that 'the commercial value of water can scarcely be fixed with

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precision,' whether these considerations have been authoritatively laid down in any resolution or despatch of the Secretary of State or the Government of India;

(b) whether it is a fact that in connexion with the imposition of the water-rate in the Godavari delta, the commercial value of water was the criterion by which it was determined;

(c) whether it was mainly on the ground of the increase in the prices of food-grains and increased profits accruing to the ryot and consequently in the rise of the commercial value of water that the original water-rate was increased from Rs. 3 to Rs. 4 and Rs. 4 to Rs. 5;

(d) what the reason is for increasing recently the said rate from Rs. 5 to Rs. 6-4-0 an acre on dry lands;

(e) whether it is a fact that during the consolidated wet rate in the Godavari delta, a uniform water-rate was not imposed but a graduated water-rate with due regard to the quality and position of the land;

(f) if so, why a uniform water-rate was imposed on all lands under the Polavaram project without any regard to their quality, irrigation and drainage facilities and their capacity to bear the said rate;

(g) whether it is a fact that during the current fasli many ryots in the Polavaram island were obliged to keep their lands waste rather than take water to cultivate them as wet in view of the excessive water-rate of Rs. 10-8-0 per acre and the low prices of paddy; and

(h) what the extent is of land, villagewar, in the Polavaram island cultivated as wet as compared with the previous fasli?

A.—(a) It is in accordance with the views of the Government of India that the rates of water-cess imposed under a project should depend partly on the cost incurred.

(b) The hon. Member's attention is invited to the answer to clauses (d) and (e) of question No. 211 given on 31st October 1933 which explains the principles on which the rates of water-cess were determined in the Kistna and Godavari deltas.

(c) The rates were raised in 1865 and 1894 from Rs. 3 to Rs. 4 and from Rs. 4 to Rs. 5 respectively on various considerations, such as increase of prices, extension and improvement of channels and communications, the low rates of water-cess which then obtained, the state of public finances and the cost of maintenance of irrigation works.

(d) The hon. Member's attention is invited to the Special Settlement Officer's 'Report on the water-rates' which was published along with the Resettlement scheme report for East Godavari, West Godavari and Kistna.

(e) The hon. Member has presumably in mind the 'differential water-rate system' which has already been described in the answer to clauses (d) and (e) of question No. 211 answered on 31st October 1933.

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(f) The hon. Member's attention is invited to the answer given to clauses (a) and (b) of his question No. 726 at the meeting of 21st March 1933 in which the reasons for levy ing a uniform rate of Rs. 10-8-0 an acre have been explained.

(g) & (h) The Government have not the information but have called for it.

Mr. P. PEDDI RAJU:—" May I ask whether the Government are aware that the zamindari assessment in the Polavaram Island is about Rs. 11 and when this Rs. 10-8-0 as water-rate is added, whether the ryots will be able to take water at this cost and cultivate their lands? "

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—" I am not aware what rate is charged by the zamindars on dry lands. The ryots agreed to pay the rate for water of Rs. 10-8-0 an acre if the project was undertaken. As I stated on a previous occasion in this House, we are waiting for the final accounts of the cost of this project and we will then consider whether it is possible to reduce the rates of water-cess and still keep the project remunerative."

Mr. P. PEDDI RAJU:—" Quite apart from the final settlement of the water-rates, may I ask whether the Government will consider the advisability of reducing the rates temporarily, at least till the prices rise? "

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—" Under the orders already issued by the Government, the ryots receive a suspension of 12½ per cent of the water-cess during the current year. I cannot admit that the ryots cannot raise paddy at this water-rate, for the simple reason that a large area—9,000 acres, I think—has been brought under irrigation under this project. This is far in excess of what we anticipated."

Mr. P. PEDDI RAJU:—" May I know whether the Government will inquire whether the existing zamindari rate is not Rs. 11 an acre, and whether an addition of Rs. 10-8-0 as water-rate will not make it impossible for the ryots to cultivate wet crops? "

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—" I am not prepared to inquire into the zamindari rates."

Income due to the imposition of water-tax at a flat rate of Rs. 6-4-0 per acre.

* 499 Q.—Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) what the increased income to the Government is in Guntur district, talukwar, owing to the imposition of a flat rate of Rs. 6-4-0 per acre as water-tax; and

(b) what the increase in income is under the enhanced water-rate in the whole Presidency, districtwar?

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A.—(a) The Government have not the information.

(b) It is not clear to what enhanced rates of water-cess the hon. Member is referring. There has been no general enhancement of the rates of water-cess for the whole Presidency.

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—"With reference to the answer to clause (a), may I know whether the hon. Member will be pleased to call for the required information and place it on the table of the House?"

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—"I will consider the hon. Member's suggestion."

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—"May I know what additional revenue the Government have got in each district by altering the existing rate into a flat rate?"

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—"I have already stated I do not understand to what enhancement the hon. Member is referring."

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—"As a matter of fact, in Tanjore they have put the rate at Rs. 7-2-0, in Guntur they have put it at Rs. 6-4-0. For each delta they have fixed a flat rate. I want to know what is the increase in revenue that the Government have realized by introducing this flat rate?"

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—"I am not sure that the differential water-rate system is in force in Tanjore."

Mr. P. PEDDI RAJU:—"May I know whether there are not lands which under the differential water-rate system were paying Rs. 3 only but which are now being charged Rs. 6-4-0—an increase of over 100 per cent—and whether the ryots of these lands have not been particularly hard hit?"

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—"The ryots of these lands have been particularly fortunate in having had to pay such a low water-rate for so long."

Extension of kistbandi from three to four months.

* 500 Q.—Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether the Government have any proposal for raising the number of instalments for payment of the land revenue from three to four in all places where there are only three instalments from January to March?

A.—The answer is in the negative.

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—"May I ask whether the Government will be pleased to increase the number of instalments from 3 to 4, considering the sad plight of the ryots?"

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The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—"The question of kistbandi throughout the Province was examined in 1931 and 1932 and I am not prepared to reopen the general question again so early as this."

Levy of additional charges in cases of attachment of property for arrears of land revenue.

* 501 Q.—Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether it is a fact that certain additional charges are levied in cases of attachment of property for arrears of land revenue besides collecting the actual arrears?

A.—Yes, when a special paid agency is employed for the purpose.

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—"May I ask whether it is not a fact that, without appointing any paid agency, the Government are charging extra fees for attachment of property?"

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—"I am not aware of it, Sir."

Floods in the districts of Godavari East and Godavari West.

* 502 Q.—Mr. G. SRIRAMULU: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that there were recurring floods in the East and West Godavari districts on account of the abnormal rains and the consequent rise of the Godavari this year;

(b) whether it is a fact that standing crops in all the taluks of both the districts were partially damaged and that those in the lankas were completely damaged;

(c) whether the reports of the local authorities on the condition of the crops in the districts and especially in the lankas have been received and, if so, whether they will be placed on the table of the House;

(d) what help has already been rendered by the Government to the ryots affected by the flood and whether there is any proposal before the Government to advance loans to the ryots of the flood-affected areas in the districts so as to enable them to cultivate future crops of the year; and

(e) whether there are any proposals before the Government to grant remissions to the ryots of the districts?

A.—(a) to (e) The hon. Member is referred to the answers given to questions Nos. 447 and 448 at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on 10th November 1933 wherein the Government have already given particulars in respect of floods in the West Godavari district and the measures of financial relief taken by them.

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Copies of the reports ^a of the Collector of East Godavari on floods in that district are laid on the table. The Government have already sanctioned the sum of Rs. 82 applied for by the Collector in his letter, dated 26th September 1933, and the sum of Rs. 500 applied for in his letter, dated 3rd November 1933. The Government have at present no other information. The granting of loans is governed by the provisions of the Land Improvement Loans Act and the Agriculturists' Loans Act, and the rules made under these Acts. The grant of remissions is governed by the provisions of Board's Standing Orders Nos. 13 and 14.

Rental on lands leased out to the depressed classes tenants' co-operative societies, Guntur district.

* 503 Q.—Mr. P. C. MOSES: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the extent of land leased out by the Government to the several depressed classes tenants' co-operative societies in Guntur district before January 1933;

(b) the rental which these societies paid in 1932 for the lands leased to them;

(c) the rental fixed on such lands for the year 1933-34;

(d) whether the economic condition of the members of the tenants' co-operative societies was taken into consideration in raising the rent this year;

(e) the number of societies that could not accept the lease because of the high rental fixed for 1933-34;

(f) the reasons for change in the rental; and

(g) whether the Government will place on the table the Standing Orders of the Board of Revenue and also the orders of the Government on the lease of the lands in question for the past three years?

A.—(a) to (f) It is presumed that the hon. Member refers to the lease of lankas. The Government have not the information but have called for a report.

(g) The general rule regarding lease of lanka lands is contained in paragraph 35 (x) of B.S.O. No. 15 at page 53 of Board's Standing Order, Volume I, which is available in the Secretariat Library. Special rules framed for the lease of lankas in the Godavari river (which apply also to the Guntur district) are contained in G.O. No. 586, Revenue, dated 10th March 1920, which has been placed at the disposal of the Press. Lease of lankas to depressed classes is however made without auction. The Board of Revenue has been empowered to sanction such leases.

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Pounds and Prevention of Cattle Trespass

Transfer of cattle pounds to the control of the local bodies.

11.30
a.m.

* 504 Q.—Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have decided to hand over cattle pounds to local bodies in the respective areas; and

(b) if so, when it will come into force?

A.—The question of transferring the control and management of cattle pounds to local bodies was recently examined by the Government. The proposal has been dropped.

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—“ May I know why the Government dropped the proposal to entrust to the local bodies the control of cattle pounds? ”

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—“ The information will be placed on the table of the House.”

Public Service

Selection of clerks by the Madras Services Commission for Telugu areas.

* 505 Q.—Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Madras Service Commission is selecting clerks, etc., for Telugu areas from non-Telugu districts, although there are many Telugu candidates who are qualified?

A.—In 1931 and 1932 candidates who did not know Telugu were allotted to Telugu districts by the Madras Services Commission as the number of Telugu candidates successful in the competitive examination held by the Commission was not sufficient to fill the vacancies in those districts.

Promotion of lower division clerks to vacancies in the upper division.

* 506 Q.—Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether, with reference to his answer to question No. 1281, dated the 24th March 1932, any vacancies in the Superintendents' or upper division clerks' grades have been or are proposed to be filled otherwise than by promotion as given in the above answer;

(b) if the answer to the above is in the affirmative, on what grounds a departure was made and is proposed to be permitted; and

(c) how many permanent lower division clerks there are now in each department of the Secretariat selected to do drafting work?

A.—(a) & (b) The answer to clause (c) of Question No. 1281 was not intended to convey the idea that promotion from the upper and lower division clerical grades was the only method of filling vacancies in the grades of Superintendents and upper division clerks. Under rules 2 (a) and 12

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of the Madras Ministerial Service Rules, recruitment to these grades may be by promotion from a post in the Madras Ministerial Service or by transfer from any other Subordinate Service and to the posts of upper division clerks it may also be direct.

Between 20th February 1932 and October 1933 two vacancies in the Superintendents' grade and seven vacancies in the upper division clerical grade have been filled otherwise than by promotion of upper division and lower division clerks respectively.

(c) The information is given below:—

Chief Secretariat	...	...	...	...	5
Revenue Secretariat	...	...	...	...	1
Law Secretariat	...	...	...	...	1
Local Self-Government Secretariat	...	...	...	...	7

Savings due to the stoppage of officiating promotions to clerks of the Secretariat acting in the Upper Division.

* 507 Q.—Mr. M. S. SRESHTA: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state the amount of savings to the Government due to the stoppage of officiating promotions to clerks from the lower division to the upper division cadre of the Secretariat for the last five years?

A.—Rs. 2,426-13-0.

Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—"Is it not a fact that officiating promotion is denied to permanent lower division clerks and that acting allowance is given to acting lower division clerks?"

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—"Yes."

Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—"Is that arrangement quite fair?"

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—"The matter is under examination in the Secretariat."

Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—"May I ask whether the savings by stoppage of officiating promotions would not be greater, if recruitment was confined to lower division clerks and if promotion was made from lower division to upper division?"

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—"It would be greater if acting lower division clerks were not given acting allowances for officiating in the upper division."

Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—"Will the hon. Member consider the desirability of giving officiating allowance to persons who are permanent lower division clerks and who are officiating in the upper division?"

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—"As I said, the question is under consideration at the present moment."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know whether this question has been before the Government for more than four months now?"

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—"It is quite possible."

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Local Self-Government

Petitions presented regarding the Salem District Board.

* 508 Q.—Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government received three petitions from certain members of the Salem District Board in March, April and July;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Government have not yet taken any action on the first two petitions but issued a Government Order on the 23rd August 1933 only with reference to the petition received in July;

(c) whether the Government have received any representation from any of the petitioners protesting against the alleged insult to the petitioners implied in the Government Order and what action the Government have taken on it; and

(d) why the Government did not instruct the Inspector of Local Boards to investigate the matter mentioned in the petitions as requested by the signatories?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Orders have issued in G.O.* No. 3402, L. & M., dated 23rd August 1933, on the petition received in July 1933. The other petitions are under consideration.

(c) A personal representation has been made and with reference thereto the Government have issued orders in G.O.* No. 4920, dated 28th November 1933, copy of which as well as a copy of G.O. No. 3402, L. & M., dated 23rd August 1933, are placed on the table.

(d) The Government did not consider it necessary.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"In view of the fact that the Government have found that the President, District Board, did not keep proper records and it has necessitated the issue of a Government Order that he should keep records in proper order, will the Government be pleased to state why they think that no action is necessary?"

Mr. E. CONRAN SMITH:—"I believe the practice in many local bodies is to record the proceedings of meetings from notes made at the meetings. The Government were satisfied that in this case no further action was necessary."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"Will the Government be pleased to state whether they are justified in making insinuations against the petitioners when there were no such allegations in the petition?"

Mr. E. CONRAN SMITH:—"I take it that the hon. Member is referring to the allegation referred to in the first Government Order. That allegation was made personally by the hon. Member himself."

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Disqualification for voting incurred by members of local bodies in the Guntur district on the plea of an alleged resignation of office on their part.

* 509 Q.—Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received any representations from the aggrieved members regarding instances in Guntur district, where the presidents have disqualified members from voting or participating in no-confidence motions on the plea that those members had sent in letters of resignation from the local areas concerned, in spite of the protests of the members concerned and their declaration that they had never written letters resigning their seats; and

(b) what action the Government have taken to prevent such abuse of powers in the future?

A.—(a) Government have received a petition to this effect from M.R.Ry. Modukuru Rajayya Garu, a member of the Guntur Taluk Board.

(b) Government have already issued instructions in G.O. No. 146, L. & M., dated 17th January 1931, copy of which is placed on the table.^a In the case under reference, however, the President, Taluk Board, Guntur, reported that the member tendered his resignation to the President in person.

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—“ May I know why the Revenue Divisional Officer who presided when the no-confidence motion was moved, permitted Mr. Rajayya to take part in the motion? ”

Mr. E. CONRAN SMITH:—“ The Government have no information.”

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—“ How can the Revenue Divisional Officer admit a member who has resigned already? ”

Mr. E. CONRAN SMITH:—“ The resignation in question was received by the President of the Board. The Government took the view that the genuineness or otherwise of the resignation was not a matter for the Revenue Divisional Officer to decide but for the courts.”

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—“ What made the Government delay passing any order for eight months and then ask the Taluk Board to show cause why it should not be dissolved? ”

Mr. E. CONRAN SMITH:—“ The hon. Member is confusing two issues. The Government have not asked the Taluk Board to show cause why it should not be dissolved in connexion with this particular case.”

Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—“ With reference to the Government Order issuing instructions as to how local bodies should behave in the matter of accepting resignations, may I know whether

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the date of resignation or the date when the resignation was received by the President of the Local Board or the date of confirmation of the communication was urged should be taken into consideration? "

Mr. E. CONRAN SMITH:—"The instructions issued by the Government are only executive instructions. They do not relate to the question raised by the hon. Member, which is a matter for the courts."

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—"When there is a specific Government Order issued by the Government in 1931 that, when a member denies having sent in his resignation, it must not be given effect to, may I know the reason why the Taluk Board President did not give effect to that Government Order?"

Mr. E. CONRAN SMITH:—"The question should be addressed to the Taluk Board President."

Appointment of the President, District Board, Kistna, as Special Officer for the conduct of elections to the panchayats in the district.

* 510 Q.—Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the President, District Board, Kistna, was appointed special officer to conduct elections to the panchayats in his district till a district panchayat officer was appointed in due course;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the order appointing him as special officer was subsequently cancelled;

(c) who originally suggested the appointment, the Government or the Inspector of Local Boards and Municipalities; and

(d) on whose suggestion was the order cancelled and what the reasons are for the same?

A.—(a) The President, District Board, Kistna, was appointed Election Officer in connexion with the conduct of elections to panchayats in the district.

(b) Yes.

(c) The Inspector of Municipal Councils as Election authority made the appointment.

(d) At the instance of Government. The appointment was contrary to the scheme and spirit of the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920.

Medical Administration

Leave allowances of medical officers compelled to go on leave preparatory to retirement.

* 511 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether in their Order No. 712, P.H., dated 24th March 1932, the Government compelled any medical officers to go on leave preliminary to retirements and, if so, their names, the date from which their

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leave began and the emoluments they drew from that date up to their date of retirement, respectively;

(b) whether the order referred to above was subsequently cancelled in G.O. No. 1078, P.H., dated 18th May 1933, and if so, why; and

(c) whether the medical officers who were compelled to go on leave by the earlier order and who, during the whole or part of the period of their leave, drew less than their normal pay were paid the difference between their leave pay and their normal pay and, if not, why not?

A.—(a) The four assistant surgeons retired under the Government Order applied for leave on receipt of the notice of retirement and they were granted the leave admissible to them. The required information is furnished in the appended statement.*

(b) Yes; as it was not possible to reduce the strength of the service in time as anticipated and as the order of retrenchment of personnel was also subsequently modified.

(c) The period during which the assistant surgeons were on leave on half average pay was treated as leave on full average pay and arrears of pay were disbursed to them. The Government do not consider it necessary to grant more.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“In view of the fact that the Government themselves compelled these officers to take leave preparatory to retirement, was it not due to them that they should be given their full salary for the period of their leave?”

Mr. E. CONRAN SMITH:—“As is stated in the answer, the Government considered that it was necessary to give these officers only full average pay.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“May I know whether it is not a fact that the Government of India have compelled the Government of Madras to give compensation to senior officers who are asked to retire as a measure of retrenchment?”

Mr. E. CONRAN SMITH:—“The Government of India explained to the Government of Madras what their interpretation of the Civil Service Rules is. According to that interpretation, I believe, the compensation has to be given in such cases of retirement.”

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“When these four Assistant Surgeons are asked to go on leave preparatory to retirement and then to join duty, may I know whether such a course does not shut out the junior assistant surgeons and that they become age-barred?”

Mr. E. CONRAN SMITH:—“In the circumstances stated, the effect might be as the hon. Member suggests.”

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Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"In view of the order of the Government of India, when the Government compel their officers to retire, is it not necessary that they should be given full salary?"

Mr. E. CONRAN SMITH:—"I think I have already answered that question."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Why should not the Government of Madras ask those persons who have put in 25 years of service and more to retire and employ juniors?"

Mr. E. CONRAN SMITH:—"I must ask for notice of the question."

Change of the designation of Lady Medical Officers into Women Medical Officers.

* 512 Q.—Diwan Bahadur A. APPADURAI PILLAI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware of the recent change in the designation of Lady Medical Officers into Woman Assistant Surgeon, Woman Apothecary and Woman Sub-Assistant Surgeon, the term 'woman' being substituted for the term 'Lady' previously in use;

(b) if so, for what reason has this change been effected;

(c) whether similar changes were effected in other services, for instance, Educational;

(d) whether it is a fact that several lady doctors have made representations to their respective heads of departments; and

(e) whether there is any intention on the part of Government to restore the appellation hitherto in use?

A.—(a) & (b) Yes. The change in the designation follows the use of the term 'woman' in the statutory rules relating to the service.

(c) The term 'woman' and women's branch are used in the statutory rules relating to the Madras Educational Service also.

(d) No; only one complaint was received by the Surgeon-General from the woman apothecary attached to the Municipal Women and Children's Dispensary at Vaniyambadi.

(e) No. The Government see no objection whatever to the use of the terms 'woman assistant surgeon,' 'woman apothecary' and 'woman sub-assistant surgeon.'

Diwan Bahadur A. APPADURAI PILLAI:—"May I know if the Government are aware that the term 'women' is resented by the lady officers in Government service?"

Mr. E. CONRAN SMITH:—"No, Sir; the Government are not aware of it."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Why is there the necessity to add the appellation of sex along with the designation?"

Mr. E. CONRAN SMITH:—"For administrative convenience."

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Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—"May I know whether the Government are aware that the word 'lady' sounds better than the word 'woman' and is more respectable?"

Mr. E. CONRAN SMITH:—"A lady remains a lady whatever her official designation may be."

Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—"May I know whether the sex of the officer can be entirely omitted?"

Mr. E. CONRAN SMITH:—"It is necessary to retain it for administrative convenience."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Will the Government reconsider the question of restoring the lady to her sex?"

Mr. E. CONRAN SMITH:—"As there is no category of 'gentlemen assistant surgeons,' it is not necessary to have one of 'lady assistant surgeons'."

Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—"Is not the word 'lady' retained in the designation of officers in some departments of Government?"

Mr. E. CONRAN SMITH:—"I think that in the Educational Department also they are called 'women'."

Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—"Are they called 'ladies' or 'women'?"

Mr. E. CONRAN SMITH:—"They are called 'women'."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know whether the term 'man' precedes the designation of a male officer?"

Mr. E. CONRAN SMITH:—"Yes; there is a 'men's branch' in some of the services."

Change of designation of 'Lady Apothecary' and 'Lady Assistant Surgeon.'

* 513 Q.—Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the designations 'Lady Apothecary' and 'Lady Assistant Surgeon' have been changed into 'woman apothecary' and 'woman assistant surgeon'; if so, the reasons for this change; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the diploma obtained by lady apothecaries is styled as 'Lady Apothecary' examination?

A.—(a) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to clauses (a) and (b) of question No. 512.

(b) No.

Countersignature of medical certificates issued to non-gazetted Government servants.

* 514 Q.—B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have issued any order directing the discontinuance of the practice under which medical certificates granted to a non-gazetted Government servant in superior service by a registered medical practitioner; recommending the grant of leave or extension of leave, were sent to District Medical Officers for countersignature;

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(b) whether, instead, the Government have permitted the authority competent to grant the leave in such cases to accept the said medical certificate or to secure a second medical opinion by sending the applicant for medical examination; and

(c) whether any representation was received on the subject; and, if so, when and with what result?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) No.

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—“ May I know whether the Government are aware that the registered Medical Practitioner, who gives the certificate, will know more about the case—because he is treating the case—than the District Medical Officer before whom the patient appears for the nonce? ”

Mr. E. CONRAN SMITH:—“ I am not prepared to answer that question.”

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—“ Suppose a man is suffering from pneumonia; the Registered Medical Practitioner says that he is suffering from that disease and that he requires so many months' leave. If the man is asked to go to the District Surgeon after the expiry of fifteen days or one month, the patient might have been completely cured and the District Surgeon may say that he is quite all right? ”

• Mr. E. CONRAN SMITH:—“ Given the premises, the hon. Member is perfectly right.”

Fee concessions to students in the Medical College, Vizagapatam.

* 515 Q.—MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) how many students from the Medical College, Vizagapatam, applied for half-fee concession during 1931, 1932 and 1933, and how many of such applications were granted and how many were rejected; and

(b) what the reasons were for the rejection of the applications?

A.—(a)—

	1931.	1932.	1933.
Number of students who applied for half-fee concession	7	Nil.	5
Number of students who were granted half-fee concession ..	3	Nil.	Nil.
Number of applications which were rejected	4	Nil.	5

(b) Rule 92 of the Madras Educational Rules which governs the grant of half-fee concession gives discretion to the Principal of the College to grant the concession to students whose parents or guardians are so poor that the grant of the concession is necessary. The Principal of the College exercised his discretion and rejected four applications during 1931.

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No applications were entertained during 1932. During 1933 five candidates, while applying for admission to the College, stated that they required the half-fee concession. They were informed before admission that such concessions were not admissible.

In August 1931 the Principal of the College received a communication from the Surgeon-General stating that the Director of Public Instruction had submitted a proposal to the Government to abolish as a measure of retrenchment the system of half-fee concession. The Principal thought that pending a decision on this question he could not grant any half-fee concession. The proposal of the Director of Public Instruction, however, was confined to the educational institutions under his control. Thus the action of the Principal in having refused to grant the concession during 1932 and 1933 was due to a misapprehension.

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—"Will the Government see that fee concessions are given at least in the future?"

Mr. E. CONRAN SMITH:—"The Government have already issued instructions to the Principal of the Medical College."

X-ray facilities provided by Government.

* 516 Q.—Mr. M. S. SRESHTA: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) at what hospitals or other institutions X-ray apparatus has been provided by the Government;

(b) what does one such installation cost; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to install it at Mangalore?

A.—(a) X-ray installations are available at the following centres:—

- (1) Government X-Ray Institute, Madras.
- (2) Government Rayapuram Hospital, Madras.
- (3) Government Headquarters Hospital, Vizagapatam.
- (4) Government Headquarters Hospital, Ootacamund.
- (5) Government Headquarters Hospital, Coimbatore.
- (6) Government Headquarters Hospital, Cocanada.
- (7) Government Headquarters Hospital, Berhampur.
- (8) Government Headquarters Hospital, Madura.
- (9) Government Headquarters Hospital, Tanjore.

(b) The cost of one diagnostic X-ray outfit is about £600.

(c) No.

Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—"May I ask whether the Government have prepared a scheme for introducing X-ray installation at each hospital?"

Mr. E. CONRAN SMITH:—"No."

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Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—" May I know whether the Government will consider the point that preference should be given to the hospitals which are far away from Madras? "

Mr. E. CONRAN SMITH:—" I think the question of introducing X-ray installations in a large number of hospitals has not been considered in view of the present financial stringency."

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—" May I know why the Ceded districts have been completely lost sight of? "

Mr. E. CONRAN SMITH:—" I must ask for notice of the question."

Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—" May I ask whether the question of distance from the places where the apparatus is installed will be taken into consideration when the question is taken up? "

Mr. E. CONRAN SMITH:—" I think that will be done."

Mr. DANIEL THOMAS:—" Will the hon. Member be pleased to state whether the question of instituting X-ray apparatus in all headquarter hospitals at least, has been considered by the Government? "

Mr. E. CONRAN SMITH:—" No, Sir."

Mr. DANIEL THOMAS:—" Will the Government be pleased to consider such a necessity? "

Mr. E. CONRAN SMITH:—" The Government will consider it in due course."

Out-patient Departments of the Government School of Indian Medicine, Madras.

* 517 Q.—S. M. K. BEYABANI SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of out-patient departments in the Government School of Indian Medicine;

(b) the average number of patients attending per day from 1930 to 1933 in each; and

(c) the number of students who took their diplomas up till now under the following heads:—

—							Number of employed.	Number of unemployed.	Total.
Ayurvedic	..	..	..	..	..	..			
Unani	..	..	..	..	..	..			
Siddha	..	..	..	..	..	..			

A.—(a) Four, viz., Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Western medicine. (The last one is for minor surgical operations.)

(b) & (c) Two statements* furnishing the information required are laid on the table.

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Public Health and Sanitation*Grant to the Cumbum Taluk Board for village development during 1932-33.*

* 518 Q.—S. M. K. BEYABANI SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the amount granted to Cumbum Taluk Board for village development and the amount spent by the board last year, 1932-33; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the president of this taluk board was not able to utilize the whole by a mistake?

A.—(a) No amount was granted.

(b) The question does not arise.

Appointment of Water Works Supervisor by the Chairman, Municipal Council, Ootacamund.

* 519 Q.—Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chairman, Ootacamund Municipal Council, appointed one M.R.Ry. Krishnaswami Mudaliyar as the Water Works Supervisor from 1st April 1933;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Government were aware of the fact that the Chairman was going to make the said appointment on the strength of the provision contained in the Budget for 1933-34 and that no objection was raised by the Government regarding the legality or the validity of the provision in the Budget;

(c) whether the Government called for information from the Chairman, Ootacamund Municipal Council, regarding the qualification of Mr. Krishnaswami Mudaliyar after the appointment had been made;

(d) if the answer to clause (c) is in the affirmative, what the necessity for calling for information regarding the qualification of Mr. Krishnaswami Mudaliyar was;

(e) whether it is a fact that the Government after a lapse of more than four months after the appointment of Mr. Krishnaswami Mudaliyar called upon the Chairman to show cause why the appointment should not be cancelled on the ground that a mere provision in the Budget was not sufficient authority for the Chairman to make the appointment;

(f) whether the Chairman submitted his explanation and, if so, whether the Government will be pleased to lay on the table the entire correspondence on that subject;

(g) whether the Chairman informed the Government that he had taken legal opinion before making the appointment and requested the Government to get the opinion of the Advocate-General or any other law officer;

(h) if the answer to clause (g) is in the affirmative, whether the Government will be pleased to state why legal opinion was not taken by them especially in view of the fact that the Chairman, Ootacamund Municipal Council, had obtained legal opinion;

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(i) whether it is a fact that a resolution for validating the Chairman's order appointing a Water-works supervisor was one of the items on the agenda of the municipal council on 31st August 1933, and that in spite of the Chairman's request to defer passing orders till the decision of the Council was known, the Government cancelled the appointment a day before the meeting of the Council; and

(j) what the reasons were for not awaiting the resolution of the Council?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Yes, but no objection was raised at the time as the Government were not in full possession of all the facts.

(c) Yes.

(d) As the Government understood that the person appointed by the Chairman was not suitable for the post of the Water-works Supervisor they called for the information.

(e) Yes; but the appointment was objected to not entirely on the ground referred to by the hon. Member but because of the existence of a specific resolution of the municipal council to keep the post in abeyance, which had not been rescinded by it at any time.

(f) Yes; but the Government do not consider it necessary to lay the correspondence on the table.

(g) Yes.

(h) The Government did not consider that any legal opinion was necessary.

(i) Yes.

(j) Even if the Council ratified the Chairman's action the appointment was still invalid as it was made contrary to the recommendations of the Sanitary Engineer.

Mr. J. A. DAVIS:—"May I know if Government issued specific subsequent orders directing the filling of this appointment?"

Mr. E. CONRAN SMITH:—"I think all the orders issued by the Government have been mentioned in the answer to the interpellation."

Mr. J. A. DAVIS:—"May I know whether the orders of Government were placed before the Municipal Council, whether the Chairman prevented compliance with those orders by ruling all resolutions and discussion thereon out of order and whether a protest against such action is before Government?"

Mr. E. CONRAN SMITH:—"The order was placed before the Council but the Chairman disallowed discussion."

Provision of drinking water wells in cheris with houses less than 100 in number.

* 520 Q.—Diwan Bahadur A. APPADURAI PILLAI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is an order of Government to the effect that drinking water wells should not be sanctioned for cheris where the number of houses is less than 100;

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(b) whether this is a hard and fast rule which cannot be relaxed in any circumstances; and

(c) what are the orders of Government as to how cases where, though the number of houses fall below the prescribed limit, there is real need for drinking water-supply are to be dealt with?

520 540—

A.—(a) No.

(b) & (c) Do not arise.

Agriculture

Outbreak of a new disease affecting the potato tubers.

* 521 Q.—Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that there has been increased crop of potatoes on the Nilgiris during this year raised with the fertilizers and that large amounts of potatoes had to be thrown out as they were diseased;

(b) whether they propose to make enquiries as to the nature of the disease in the potato tubers and how to eradicate the same;

(c) how long the Nanjanad seed farm has been working and what the quantities are of seed raised during the past five years;

(d) whether the farm had any disease prevalent in its fields and what action was taken to remedy the same;

(e) whether the Government will be pleased to publish the experiments carried out and results obtained in a booklet for the information of the ryots interested in this crop; and

(f) whether the Director of Agriculture visited the seed farm during the past six months and what his impressions are as to the public utility of the seed farm?

A.—(a) The Government understand that artificial fertilizers are being increasingly used in the cultivation of potatoes on the Nilgiris. If the fertilizers are not properly balanced in regard to nitrogen, phosphate and potash, the crop may be affected by disease.

(b) Samples of diseased potatoes are sent to the Government Mycologist as and when found. The main diseases diagnosed are—

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------|
| (1) Ring disease | } on tubers. |
| (2) Fusarium species | |
| (3) Rhizoctonia | |

(4) Alternaria (early blight) on leaves.

The nature of these diseases is fairly well known and advice for their prevention is being given.

(c) The Nanjanad farm started work in 1917. The quantity of seed raised in the past five years was 17,972 maunds.

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- (d) The farm has experienced these diseases. The following methods have been adopted to overcome the attacks and produce healthy crops:—
- (1) Rotation of crops.
 - (2) Destruction of diseased potatoes.
 - (3) Selection of disease-free and well-sprouted seed.
 - (4) Improved methods of cultivation.
- (e) A Press Communiqué on the Agricultural Research Station, Nanjanad, was issued in August 1932 and was published in Part I of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 30th August 1932. The question of publishing a bulletin on the experiments conducted and the results obtained is under consideration by the Director of Agriculture.
- (f) The Director did not visit the farm this year but he visited it twice last year. He considers that the farm is doing useful work.

Public Works

Expenditure on the construction of quarters for Government servants since the Provincial contribution was fixed.

* 522 Q.—MR. A. PL. N. V. NADIMUTHU PILLAI: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state how much has been spent in the construction of quarters for Government servants after the Provincial contribution was fixed in 1920?

* A.—A statement* showing divisionwar the expenditure incurred in each circle since 1920 is furnished.

MR. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—“From the statement it is found that three times the amount that was set apart for the Telugu districts was given to the Tamil districts. May I ask if the Government think that the Telugu districts do not require quarters for their Government servants?”

The hon. MR. P. T. RAJAN:—“Probably the Telugu districts had quarters already.”

Education

Appointment of examiners for Government Technical Examinations in Commerce.

* 523 Q.—MR. G. SIMHACHALAM PANTULU: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) whether any fixed rules are followed in the appointment of chief and assistant examiners for Government Technical Examinations in Commerce held by the Madras Government Technical Examinations Board or by the Commissioner for Government Technical Examinations; if so, what the educational and technical qualifications and the teaching experience needed are for the appointment of such examiners;

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(b) whether any list of such qualified people is prepared and any principle of rotation is observed in the appointment of such examiners; and

(c) the number of examiners appointed for these examinations from 1926 to 1933 and how many of them are Telugus; how many of them are Tamilians; and the remuneration paid to them individually for acting as examiners?

A.—(a) & (b) No hard-and-fast rules are followed. Examiners and assistant examiners are selected by the Commissioner for Government Examinations with reference to their knowledge and practical experience, their status and their capacity to discharge the responsible work entrusted to them.

(c) A statement * is appended. Information regarding the names of examiners and the remuneration paid to them is confidential.

11-45 a.m. Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM PANTULU:—" May I know why it is not considered necessary to comply with the suggestion made in clause (b) of the question, i.e., to prepare a list of the people qualified? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" I do not think that any useful purpose will be served by the preparation of such a list."

Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM PANTULU:—" When there is a feeling among some people that their claims are not properly considered at the time of selection, why does not the hon. Minister think it necessary to remedy their grievances? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" As the hon. Member will understand from the answer to the clause (c) even if such a list is prepared, it will be kept confidential. Therefore, there is no use in preparing one."

Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM PANTULU:—" The suggestion made in clause (b) is to prepare a list of the candidates every year who are qualified and to observe a certain principle in making the selection? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" But that list would be kept confidential, I say. It won't be open to the public and so the public cannot have an opportunity to criticise it."

Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM PANTULU:—" I wish to know if there is any such list prepared now? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" There is none."

Revision of the curriculum of studies in the higher elementary schools.

* 524 Q.—Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) whether a committee was appointed by the Government to report on the course of studies in the higher elementary schools;

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(b) who the members of the committee were and whether that committee has made any report;

(c) if the answer is in the affirmative, when the report was submitted and whether the Government have considered the same; and

(d) why the Government have not published the report?

A.—(a) A committee was appointed by the Director of Public Instruction for the purpose.

(b) The members of the committee were Mr. R. M. Statham (Chairman), Mr. G. L. Lobo, Abdul Hamid Sahib Bahadur, M.R.Ry. A. Ramanatha Pillai Avargal, M.R.Ry. D. S. Reddi Garu (Secretary). The committee has sent a report to the Director.

(c) & (d) The report was submitted on 31st October 1932. It is under the consideration of the Director and has not yet been submitted to Government.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“ May I know the reason for the delay in printing the report and why the Director kept it for a long period himself, without submitting it to the Government for orders? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—“ Notice.”

Rules of admission into the Widows' Home, Madras.

* 525 Q.—S. M. K. BEYABANI SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) whether admission to the Widows' Home near the Beach at Madras is restricted to any particular community or members professing a particular religion;

(b) if so, to what communities or religions;

(c) the reasons for such restrictions;

(d) what the total annual expenditure on the Widows' Home is;

(e) how much of it is met from moneys collected from the inmates;

(f) what the rate of fees collected is and what the kinds of fees collected are;

(g) whether there is any endowment to the Widows' Home;

(h) if so, what the annual income therefrom is and what the nature and terms of the endowment are; and

(i) the number of the residents in the Widows' Home for the years 1931-32 and 1932-33 with the caste, sect or religion to which they belonged?

A.—(a) & (b) The hon. Member apparently refers to the Ice House Hostel attached to the Lady Willingdon Training College. Admission to this hostel is open to Hindu widows who are pupils in the model school attached to the college and to all Hindu students undergoing training in the secondary and higher elementary training classes in the college.

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(c) Admission to the Ice House Hostel is restricted to Hindus in view of the fact that there are separate hostels for other communities.

(d) The Ice House premises are used partly for hostel purposes and partly for the college and the model school. The expenditure incurred on rates and taxes and on the upkeep of the premises and on scholarships awarded to widows in the hostel is given below:—

	1931-32.	1932-33.
	RS.	RS.
Rates and taxes and other items ..	2,311	2,098
Widow scholarships	7,560	5,940

(e) Rent on electric installation and current consumption charges are recovered from the paying members of the hostel. The amounts collected in 1931-32 and 1932-33 were as follows:—

	RS.
1931-32	236
1932-33	182

(f) Tuition fees for attending school and training classes are collected at the rates laid down in the Madras Educational Rules except in the case of widow scholarship holders.

(g) & (h) There is no endowment.

(i)

	Brahmans.	Non-Brahmans.	Total.
1931-32	67	12	79
1932-33	52	9	61

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—" May I know why there is such great disparity between the number of Brahman and Non-Brahman residents, as 67 and 12 and 52 and 9 respectively? Is there any special reason? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" Notice."

Selection of Christians and Members of the Depressed Classes for admission into the Government Training Schools at Koilpatti and Tinnevely in 1931.

* 526 Q.—MR. M. DEVADASAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) how many depressed class candidates applied for admission into the Government Training Schools at Koilpatti and Tinnevely in the year 1931 for the three grades of training;

(b) how many Christians applied for admission in those two schools in the year 1931; and

(c) how many candidates from the depressed classes and Christians were admitted into the schools in the year 1931?

A.—(a) to (c) A statement ^a is appended.

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Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—"I find that only 7 out of 24 Depressed Class candidates and 3 out of 8 from the Depressed Class Christians were chosen for admission, i.e., out of 32, only 10 were selected. May I know why?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"In a number of cases the candidates were ineligible for selection. I cannot say with reference to each individual case why the candidate was not admitted but I can say only this much that in many of the cases the candidates were ineligible for selection."

Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—"May I know whether lower grade training has been retained only with a view to helping Depressed Classes and Depressed Class Christian candidates?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"It was retained with a view to help the Depressed Classes; but Christians are not included among the Depressed Classes. That is another reason why some of the candidates were not admitted."

Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—"May I know why out of 24, only 7 were selected?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"I have already answered that question."

Selection of Christians and Members of the Depressed Classes for admission into the Government Training Schools at Koilpatti and Tinnevelly in 1932.

* 527 Q.—Mr. M. DEVADASAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) how many candidates from the depressed classes applied for admission into the Government Training Schools at Koilpatti and Tinnevelly for the two grades of training in the year 1932;

(b) how many Christians applied for admission into these two schools in the year 1932; and

(c) how many candidates from the depressed classes and Christians were admitted into the two schools in the said year?

A.—(a) to (c) A statement^a is appended.

Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—"May I know why, out of 12 Christian Adi-Dravida candidates, 3 only were chosen for the higher grade?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"For the same reason as in the case of the previous question."

Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—"May I know if the Government are aware that the Depressed Classes have got a grievance against the Government that their case has not been properly considered by the authorities?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"I am not aware of that."

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Amalgamation of Muslim and non-Muslim schools by local bodies.

* 528 Q.—MR. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state whether it is a fact that some of the local bodies have been amalgamating Muslim schools with non-Muslim schools?

A.—GOVERNMENT are not aware of any such amalgamations.

MR. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—"Is it not necessary, where there is not sufficient strength in a Muslim school, under the consolidation scheme, that the District Educational Officer should amalgamate that school with a non-Muslim school, by appointing an Urdu teacher wherever necessary?"

THE hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"The order does not contain any specific directions on that point, but the scheme would be framed with a view to achieve the maximum amount of amalgamation possible under the local conditions."

MR. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—"Is it not a fact that the Government of Madras issued a Government Order some time back asking the local boards to appoint a Muslim teacher in a non-Muslim school instead of opening a separate Muslim school for the use of the Muslim pupils?"

THE hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"Notice."

MR. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Is it not a fact that these schools have been brought into existence and are allowed to exist on account of the necessity for giving vernacular instruction to the students and on account of the fact also that the Mussalmans are backward in education?"

THE hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"Notice."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB Bahadur:—"Are the Government aware that the Muslim community in general is opposed to the amalgamation scheme?"

THE hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"My hon. Friend is not correct in saying that they are definitely opposed to it. They want certain safeguards before the amalgamation takes place. That is what the Muslim Education Committee has recommended."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB Bahadur:—"What are the conditions which they expect to be fulfilled before the amalgamation, may I know?"

THE hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"I cannot recollect them all now; they are several, I think."

MR. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"If the committee did make any such recommendations, it must have been in the expectation that the Government, before bringing about amalgamation, will see that those conditions are satisfied; do the Government know that amalgamation has been going on without even fulfilling those conditions?"

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The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"Government will, of course, most carefully scrutinize any scheme that may come up before them; but they cannot undertake that they will examine this particular question or that."

Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—"Have not other communities also objected to that scheme?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"Oh, yes."

Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—"May I know whether any orders have been passed upon the recommendations of the Muslim Education Committee?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"Yes, in regard to some portions; in regard to others, no orders have yet been passed."

Provision of a dining hall to the Madrasa-i-Azam and Muhammadan College.

* 529 Q.—Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that there is no dining hall for the students of the Government Madrasa-i-Azam and Muhammadan College; and

(b) whether any arrangement has been made for providing them with sufficiently large dining rooms in the new buildings?

A.—The new hostel buildings which are nearing completion will provide dining accommodation for those students living in the hostel.

It is also proposed to provide tiffin rooms for the day students at the College, but plans and estimates for these rooms have not yet been finally sanctioned.

After the buildings now occupied by the College are handed back to the school, it is hoped to provide suitable dining accommodation for the students of the Madrasa-i-Azam.

Measures for the employment of qualified hands in the training schools for Muslim women.

* 530 Q.—S. M. K. BEYABANI SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state what steps the Government are taking to supply qualified hands to the training schools for Muslim women?

A.—Qualified Muslim women, when available, are posted to the schools referred to. If they are not available, non-Muslim women teachers with the required qualifications are posted.

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The statutory rules relating to the Madras Educational Service and the Madras Educational Subordinate Service have been amended recently so as to make it clear that qualified and suitable candidates belonging to the Muslim community shall, if available, be selected for appointment as teachers in schools intended for Muslims.

Teaching staff of the Government Muhammadan Training School for Women, Kurnool.

* 531 Q.—S. M. K. BEYABANI SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) the number of secondary grade posts sanctioned for the Government Muhammadan Training School for Women at Kurnool;

(b) how many are working at present and what their qualifications are;

(c) whether it is a fact that one post has recently been reduced; if so, what the reasons are;

(d) whether it is a fact that a full-blown higher grade elementary school with eighth standard is attached to the Training school;

(e) whether it is a fact that lower grade elementary trained teachers are teaching in the higher standards; and

(f) whether the Government have taken any steps to secure the services of qualified teachers for the above school?

A.—(a) Ten.

(b) Nine teachers. One is a secondary grade trained teacher, three are trained teachers of the higher elementary grade and four of the lower elementary grade and one is a combined drawing and sewing mistress who has passed the Government technical examination in embroidery in the intermediate grade and who possesses also the trained teacher's certificate of the lower elementary grade.

(c) The post of physical training instructress is left unfilled as there is no qualified lady available.

(d) & (e) Yes.

(f) Yes. Muhammadan women teachers with the prescribed qualifications are not available.

Inadequacy of the conveyance facilities provided to pupils by the Government Muhammadan Training School for Women, Bellary.

* 532 Q.—S. M. K. BEYABANI SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a higher grade elementary girls' school is attached to the Government Muhammadan Training School for Women in Cowl Bazaar at Bellary;

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(b) whether the school is provided with only one cart for Gosha girls; and

(c) whether the leading Muslims of Bellary waited on a deputation recently on the Director of Public Instruction and requested him to grant two more carts?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) Yes.

Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I know whether any orders have been passed in regard to the recommendations made by the leading Muslims of Bellary for the provision of more carts? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" I do not think the Government have passed any orders on the matter."

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—" May I know whether Government charge anything for girls who come to gosha schools in carts? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" I do not think they do."

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—" May I know in that case why in other schools also carts should not be provided? There are several Hindu communities in purdah; why should they not be provided with the bandy system, and why should a particular community alone be provided with such conveniences from out of the Provincial funds? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" That question does not arise. Perhaps the hon. Member may address that question to the hon. Member who has raised this question."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" May I know whether Government are not always prepared to grant concessions of the nature given to the Muslim community on account of the fact that they observe the purdah and if any community goes into purdah, Government are prepared to help it to remain in purdah? " (Laughter.)

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" That is a hypothetical question."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB Bahadur:—" Are the non-Muslim gosha women such as the Kshatriyas, etc., as backward in education as the Muslim girls? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" I think we are going far beyond the question."

Award of scholarships and stipends to Indian Christian Depressed Class students.

* 533 Q.—Diwan Bahadur A. APPADURAI PILLAI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) whether Government scholarships or stipends are being awarded to Indian Christian depressed class students;

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(b) if so, the total number and amount of such scholarships distributed under the following heads:—

	No.	Amount.
(1) Industrial department—		
(i) Industrial schools.		
(ii) School of Arts and Crafts.		
(2) Educational department—	No.	Amount.
Literary education.		
(3) Labour department—	No.	Amount.
(i) Industrial education.		
(ii) Literary education.		

(c) whether these scholarships or stipends were withheld at any time; and

(d) if so, for what period they were so withheld?

A.—(a) & (b) It is presumed that the reference is to scholarships specially intended for converts to Christianity from the depressed classes. Such special scholarships have been instituted only in the Education Department. Their number and approximate annual value are as follow:—

Scholarship.	Annual value.
	RS.
Six scholarships tenable in Arts Colleges ..	526
Sixteen scholarships and 16 fee remissions tenable in each of Forms I to VI of secondary schools	7,176

(c) & (d) None of the scholarships mentioned above was withheld at any time; it is, however, reported that one of the collegiate scholarships is likely to lapse in the current year for want of an applicant.

MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"May I know whether sufficient steps are taken by the Government to make the availability of the scholarship publicly known?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"It has been well-known all these years."

MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"Do the Government really believe that the scholarship will lapse because there is nobody willing to ask for it?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"Not all scholarships; it is only one case. I think the Indian Christian students do know that there is such a scholarship ear-marked for them."

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The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" May I point out that the hon. Minister is inaudible? " (Laughter.)

Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA:—" May I know if industrial education is not education? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" That question relates to quite a different department. It has been examined by that department and found that even at present Indian Christians are getting more than they would be eligible for on any understandable basis, population or otherwise."

Industries

Wood-work shop at Olavakkode.

* 534 Q.—Diwan Bahadur A. APPADURAI PILLAI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government took over the wood-work shop abandoned by the Forest department at Olavakkode;

(b) if so, when and at what cost; and

(c) how the Government propose to utilize the workshop and what progress has been made so far in that direction?

A.—The Industries department did not take over the wood-work shop abandoned by the Forest department. The wood-working machinery and the power transmission equipment available there were transferred to the Government Industrial school, Calicut, on 29th May 1932 for a consideration of Rs. 4,400.

So far it has been possible to erect only part of the machinery. It has been found very useful for the manufacture and production of packing cases supplied to the Kerala Soap Institute and for instructional and demonstration purposes. The rest of the machinery will be installed and ready for operation in the course of the year.

Sericultural operations.

* 535 Q.—Diwan Bahadur A. APPADURAI PILLAI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) whether sericultural operations were extended to any fresh centres during 1931-32 and 1932-33;

(b) if so, (i) to what centres, (ii) what the area under mulberry cultivation is, (iii) what the nature and cost is of the establishment appointed to look after the work; and

(c) whether there has been any extension of work at *Palmaner* and *Kuppam* in regard to (i) the area under mulberry cultivation and (ii) the distribution of seed cocoons?

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A.—(a) Yes.

(b) (i) *Tinnevelly district*—

- (1) Rochmanagar (Nanguneri taluk).
- (2) Amalivanam (Nanguneri taluk).
- (3) Tissenvillai (Nanguneri taluk).
- (4) Kattuvavillai (Nanguneri taluk).

Chingleput district—

- (5) Athur Reddipalayam.

Chittoor district—

- (6) The Government Silk Farm, Palmaner (opened during August 1931).
- (7) Chamarajapalli.
- (8) Samudrapalli.
- (9) Royalpet (Punganur taluk).
- (10) Gollapalli (Palmaner taluk).
- (11) Bommidoddi (Palmaner taluk).
- (12) Annegampalli.
- (13) Gullarpalli.
- (14) Vasanadu.

Salem district—

- (15) Poonapalli (Hosur taluk).
- (16) Dasaripalli (Hosur taluk).
- (17) Mathigiri (Hosur taluk).

Kistna district—

- (18) Jayanthipur.
- (19) Nadigudem.
- (20) Gollapalli.

West Godavari district—

- (21) Ponangy.
- (22) Chattaparu.

Vizagapatam district—

- (23) Gajapatnagaram.

Anantapur district—

- (24) Chakarlapalli.

(ii) About 100 acres.

(iii) Five sericultural demonstrators on Rs. 35—1—40 each, are stationed in the following places to look after the District sericultural operations:—

- (1) Kuppam.
- (2) Penukonda.
- (3) Ellore.
- (4) Jaggayapet.
- (5) Vadakangulam.

The Moth Tester on Rs. 40 in charge of Government Silk Farm, Hosur, and the Farm Manager on Rs. 50—2—60 in charge of Government Silk Farm, Palmaner, are looking after the development of sericultural work in their respective areas, besides attending to the farm work.

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(c) Palmaner—

(i) 5 acres and 25 cents.

	During 1931-1932.	During 1932-1933.
(ii) Seed cocoons	51,460	109,495

Kuppan—

(i) 16 acres.

(ii) Seed cocoons	53,555	135,720
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Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—" May I know why the sericultural operations are not tried in the Cuddapah district, when I believe Rayachoti taluk is suitable for it? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" Notice, please."

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Police

Recovery of the sum misappropriated in 1932 by the Head Clerk, Police Training School, Vellore.

536 Q.—Mr. M. B. RANGASWAMI REDDI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) what steps were taken to recover the amount misappropriated in the year 1932 by the then head clerk of the Police Training School, Vellore, and what portion of the misappropriated amount has been recovered so far; and

(b) whether it is a fact that in the matter of tenders for the supply of horse-food to the Police Training School, Vellore, the principle of accepting the lowest tender is not being adhered to; if so, why?

A.—(a) The total amount misappropriated by the late head clerk was Rs. 6,736-11-9. A sum of Rs. 2,036-0-1 found in the office and in the purse of the head clerk, and sums of Rs. 500 deposited by him as security and of Rs. 161-4-0 standing to his credit in the General Provident Fund were adjusted towards the loss sustained by the Government. A sum of Rs. 2,400 was ordered to be recovered from the officer concerned and the balance of Rs. 1,639-7-8 was written off the accounts.

(b) The Government have no information but have called for it.

Local Self-Government

Measures for the formation of panchayat boards.

537 Q.—Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are taking any steps and, if so, what, to see that the village panchayat boards are formed in all the villages as early as possible;

(b) whether the formation of such panchayats is left to the voluntary efforts of the villagers; and

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(c) if any efforts are made to organize the panchayats as soon as possible, which the agency is through whom such efforts are made, and what the method of procedure is?

A.—(a) Yes; by educative propaganda.

(b) Primarily the villagers concerned should take the initiative by expressing their willingness to have a panchayat and to work it properly. The authorities set up for the purpose will do the rest.

(c) Every effort is being made to organize as many panchayats as possible consistently with sound policy and the possibility of effective control. District panchayat officers are the main agency; the procedure is that prescribed in the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920.

VI.—ACT ASSENTED TO BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I have to announce that the Madras Forest (Amendment) Act, 1933, received the assent of His Excellency the Governor on the 11th December 1933."

VII.—FINANCE COMMITTEE FOR 1933-34.

* The hon. Sir HOPETOUN STOKES:—"Sir, I beg to move that—
'with a view to the filling up of the vacancy in the Standing Finance Committee caused by reason of the resignation by Mr. W. O. Wright of his seat in the Committee, this Council do proceed to elect a member of the said Committee.'"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I second it."
The motion was put and carried.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I have to inform the House that with reference to Regulation 2 of the Regulations for holding of elections by means of the single transferable vote, I fix 3 p.m. to-day as the time by which nominations of candidates for election of a member to the Finance Committee should be sent to the Secretary."

VIII.—DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS FOR 1933-34.

GRANT VI—IRRIGATION (EXCLUDING CAUVERY-METTUR PROJECT)—

RESERVED.

* The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—"On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move that—

'the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 200 under Grant VI—Irrigation (excluding Cauvery-Mettur Project)—Reserved.'

"This sum of Rs. 200 is intended to cover two items, Rs. 100 being for the closing of the Nethiletivarava breach in the Tsamalcalva and

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increasing its flood water way below, and the second Rs. 100 being for the extension of the north and south embankments of the Polavaram Island and constructing outfall sluices for drains.

"The reasons for these two items are explained in some detail in the note which has been placed before the House. The first item relates to the Swarnamukhi river which at a certain point divides itself into two parts, one part going down the main Swarnamukhi river, the other part going through a branch called the Tsallacalva. In recent years, the water passing through the Tsallacalva has increased to such an extent that it has breached its banks in various places and has caused a considerable amount of damage. We have not been able to take up the repair of this work up to now on account of a dispute with the Venkatagiri samasthanam regarding the distribution of water a little higher up the Swarnamukhi river. That dispute has now been satisfactorily settled. We now propose to close the main breach in the Tsallacalva and put back the banks and in that way to stop any further trouble on this account. The ryots have offered to provide the land that is necessary for this work. We hope that by this means we shall prevent the submersion of the 400 acres of wet and dry lands and the partial submersion of a portion of further area of 800 acres, and also to get back by reclamation an area of 232 acres which has been covered by sand owing to the floods flowing through the breach.

"The total cost of works is estimated at Rs. 59,300, of which Rs. 7,000 is the cost of acquisition of land and this amount will be paid by the ryots concerned. If this grant is made we hope to be able to spend some Rs. 6,000 in the current year, if the work is started at once.

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noon.

"The second item relates to the extension of the flood bank of the Polavaram Island. The Polavaram Island Project has been carried out in recent years, but the flood bank was not constructed for about six miles, as it was hoped that the flood bank which was constructed might be sufficient for the purpose. This anticipation has been found to be unjustified. I may mention that in the recent floods, the Godavari water backed up through this gap to the flood bank and the result was that out of 7,000 acres of land brought under cultivation 800 acres of standing crop were destroyed and about 1,500 acres of crop were partially destroyed. If the bank is constructed as proposed and suitable drainage outfall shutters are provided damage of this kind will be minimized. This demand is brought forward as a new scheme, as the work was not contemplated in the original estimate. The total cost of the work will be nearly Rs. 60,000 and if the grant is made now we hope to begin the work in the current year and to spend about Rs. 3,000."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I second the motion."

The demand was put and carried and the grant made.

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GRANT VII—IRRIGATION (CAUVERY-METTUR PROJECT)—RESERVED.

* The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—“ Mr. President, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move—

‘ that Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 200 under Grant VII—Irrigation—Cauvery-Mettur Project—Reserved.’

“ Sir, this sum of Rs. 200 covers two items, Rs. 100 for providing a surplus escape on the F. Saddle on the right bank of the Cauvery at Mettur and another Rs. 100 to provide for the construction of a pavilion near ‘ Mullings seat ’ with an approach road and for laying out a landscape garden and park below the dam. As regards the first, it was at one time thought that the surplus arrangement made on the left bank over the Ellis Saddle would be sufficient, but it was always contemplated that if that were not sufficient, an escape might be provided on the other side of the river on what is known as the F. Saddle. On a careful examination and consideration, it has been thought advisable, as a measure of abundant caution, that we should now lower the F. Saddle, reducing it to 791 feet—and the top of the dam being 802 including the parapet—so as to allow the water to flow over the saddle on a lower level; and that the necessary arrangements should be made for controlling the flow of water over the saddle. The estimated cost of the work is in the neighbourhood of two lakhs of rupees—the actual detailed estimates are not yet ready and this is only a rough amount—and we are anxious to get on with the work as soon as possible during this year as the dam is nearing completion. I trust the House will be good enough to sanction this grant.

“ The second proposal is also not provided for in the original estimate. Hon. Members who have visited Mettur may remember ‘ Mullings seat ’—a seat called after the Chief Engineer Mr. Mullings—from which an excellent view of the dam and the reservoir can be obtained. It is now proposed to construct in the immediate vicinity just a few yards of it, a permanent pavilion which will be hexagonal in shape: on three sides there will be windows and on the other three there will be inscriptions giving particulars of the dam and the project generally and also the names of persons concerned in the construction of the work. It will be possible for visitors to obtain a very fine view of the dam and the reservoir from this pavilion. It is also proposed to lay out the ground immediately below the dam on the right side of the river as a park; the portion of the left side is reserved for hydro-electric works and we do not propose to make any arrangements there at present. The park which is now proposed can be easily irrigated with water from the reservoir. It is proposed to plant in this park fruit trees like mango and coconut. The proposed work will not involve any increase in the permanent establishment to be maintained at Mettur. It will be necessary in any case to have a staff of lascars under a responsible officer to manipulate the sluices, etc., and they will also look after the park. We hope that the produce from the fruit-trees will bring in an appreciable income. I am sure, Sir, that hon.

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Members in this House would like to see that this work is kept in a suitable manner to maintain the prestige and the dignity of this Presidency."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I second it."

* Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—"Mr. President, Sir, I move—

'to reduce the allotment of Rs. 200 under Grant VII—Irrigation—Cauvery-Mettur Project—Reserved, by Re. 1.'

"Sir, with regard to the first item, as a layman I cannot say anything. With regard to the second item, I have to say a few words, as I believe that in times like this when every pie that the Government could afford to save ought to be spent for relieving the burden of the ryot, that such a large amount should be spent on the pavilion, etc., is absolutely undesirable. I am one of those who have gone and visited the Mettur Dam, though at present I am not in a position to locate where this Mullings seat is. I thought, Sir, that the big Cauvery-Mettur Project is a memorial in itself and no other memorial would be necessary for perpetuating the memory of this project. All honour to those persons who have conceived the idea of having a project there and who planned it and carried it through. At the same time, I do not think it necessary to have a permanent pavilion for perpetuating their memory. Any tablet fixed anywhere there is good enough for the purpose of perpetuating the memory of those who were responsible for the project. Though a sum of Rs. 40,000 seems such a small amount when you consider the amount spent on this project, I consider it to be absolutely unnecessary, especially at a time when Government ought not to embark on luxurious schemes.

"It is said that, if there is a permanent pavilion, visitors can have a beautiful idea of the project and that they could be protected from sun and rain. I have myself seen the place and visitors can certainly have a view of the project from any place and no visitor would like to sit in one place to have a view and they would not mind walking in the sun during the few hours of their stay there and it would not rain always.

"With regard to the other item, when we have a memorial pavilion there should also be a road leading to it, the cost for which is estimated at Rs. 8,600. I have seen the roads in Mettur and they are certainly very good at present and when one considers how money is being spent by Government—or rather wasted—on these beautiful roads which are very rarely used, one shudders at the way, Government spend ryots' money.

"The next item looks as if Government are launching on a remunerative enterprise by planting mango and coconut trees in the landscape garden. I think it is a bait to get the landscape garden. I think there is no necessity to spend Rs. 22,000 on this landscape garden especially at this moment when we are faced with depression and when Government have practically refused relief to the ryot. Having had some knowledge of the remunerative enterprises of the Government, I do not think that they can work this coconut and manage

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tope on a remunerative basis. However, I do not think there is at present any necessity for a landscape garden. The view is beautiful and apart from any artificial garden, visitors can enjoy the scenery all the same.

“For all these reasons, I hope Government will think twice before they embark on a scheme of this kind costing Rs. 48,000. Further this item was not contemplated in the original estimate and it is absolutely unnecessary to have a sort of memorial and a landscape garden at such a huge cost.”

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P.M.

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“Mr. President, Sir, as one who has always been admiring beautiful scenery and beautiful parks particularly after my visit to the Kannambadi Dam at Mysore, I think, Sir, it will certainly add to the beauty of the locality if a nice and beautiful looking park is put up near the Mettur Dam. But, certainly, Sir, the argument that every one of us is aware, that these are days of retrenchment is there and we have to consider whether this is a very necessary and essential service to spend such a huge sum as Rs. 22,000 for a park. Probably, Sir, every member would agree, as I do, with what the hon. Member for Cuddapah has said, viz., that more urgent and important items in Part II schemes have been turned down by the Finance Committee. There are several small items of which I have come to understand one only because the proceedings of the Finance Committee have not been communicated to us. Among them one important item in which this Council is very much interested has not been sanctioned although the department put up the proposal and it was accepted by the Law Department because it concerned the Legislative Council and did not involve a very large sum. But such an item could not be recommended by the Finance Committee. I now ask, is it necessary and urgent that we should invest a huge sum like Rs. 22,000 for a park in Mettur? No doubt, the laying out of a park will be a great improvement and will be a very good improvement to the site now. But I consider, Sir, that such a thing should as well wait till more urgent things are taken up and completed. Before this investment is going to be made, I would like to ask the hon. the Revenue Member as to how he wants to dispose of the buildings that have been erected. There are very large buildings and very good buildings, well-built constructions which can be put to use in the interests of the general welfare of the public and the money that has been invested on these buildings could be well utilized. I would like to know what schemes the Government have before them to dispose of these buildings. I suggest, Sir, and I hope Government will accept my suggestion, that the best thing to which these buildings could be used will be that they should start some industrial concern in that area. The dam is already going to be improved to produce electricity in the locality and we need not go in for electricity elsewhere. When electricity could be produced and when there is such a huge site, I do not see why the Government should not launch upon an enterprise which will add to the material wealth of the country. If the Government, Sir, has any such schemes to industrialize that place by

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starting new industries and investing small capital and after working that enterprise transfer it to private people, it would be a very useful thing in the interests of the country. If for any reason Government are not able to invest any capital in starting any industry and industrializing Mettur, may I suggest to the hon. the Revenue Member that he should consult the Public Health Department and the municipalities all over the Presidency and ask them as to whether they are willing to have that centre near Mettur buildings of an asylum or sanatorium for lepers. They may be put to two uses. Firstly, the place may be made an asylum for lepers or may be used as a sanatorium for tuberculosis patients. I am not a doctor and I am not in a position to say which will be more suitable for the locality. I suggest that in the absence of any good accommodation in the Tirumani Leper Settlement and in view of the very large lepers in the city, nay, all over the Presidency, these buildings round Mettur will be an ideal place for accommodating lepers. The municipalities can be asked to contribute their quota and send . . .”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“ I am afraid the hon. Member has raised a question which is not within the scope of the Demand.”

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“ Among the improvements to the existing Mettur Dam, they propose to construct and invest more money for laying the park. I want to know, Sir, how they are going to put the buildings to use. Before the hon. the Revenue Member replies, I would like to give some suggestions about the disposal of the building.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“ I think that question will have to be raised in a different connexion altogether. I do not think it will be in order to raise the larger question now.”

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“ I have been merely asking as to how the surrounding buildings at the Mettur Dam that are available are going to be disposed of, and whether Government would be prepared to consider any proposals by municipalities or the representatives of the various districts in this Council for putting up a sanatorium for the Tirumani patients.”

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—“ I support the motion made by the hon. the Revenue Member and oppose the amendment moved by my hon. Friend from Cuddapah. Crores of rupees have been spent on the Mettur Dam. It has been considered the grandest engineering feat, not only of India but also of the whole world. Many people pay a visit from different parts of the world. When they do so, our Mettur Dam should not stand like a mummy, mute and inarticulate. It should speak through this pavilion. In one wall of the pavilion, there will be an inscription about the inception, completion and the inauguration. In another wall will be inscribed the size, the height and the cost of the dam. The conception, the inception, the completion and the inauguration are necessary information which one would like to know about. These things we will be leaving to posterity. This dam was undertaken out of capital account for which posterity is liable and so, posterity requires these kinds of information. Again, when people,

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perhaps great engineers, from all over the world go there, they should have sufficient information and at the same time complete view of the whole works. This they can do from this pavilion. Then, with regard to the garden, there is already water there, and so, if ratepayers' money is spent there, it is in the interests of the ratepayers and nothing else. So I strongly support the proposal and request my friend to withdraw his motion so that we may have a beautiful adjunct and a desirable finish to the dam."

* The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—"I am glad that my hon. Friend, Mr. Natesa Mudaliyar, has drawn attention to the fact that many visitors from all parts of the world would like to come and visit Mettur. I am not sure if hon. Members realize that the Mettur Dam is one of the greatest engineering works ever carried out. I have got figures here of a few important dams in this country and also elsewhere. Mettur will not be the highest dam nor will it be the longest one ever constructed, but I believe that it will be, at the time of completion, the largest piece of masonry in the world. Of the dams of which I have figures here, there is only one dam which is higher. The average height of the Mettur Dam is 220 feet. The only dam which is higher is the Roosevelt Dam in America which is 284 feet in height. On the other hand, the length of the Mettur Dam is almost exactly one mile, about 5,300 feet, while the Roosevelt Dam is 1,080 feet long. It is therefore considerably smaller. The Assuan Dam is 112 feet high and 6,400 feet long; it is, therefore longer than the Mettur Dam, but its cubical contents are considerably less. The cubical contents of the Roosevelt Dam are only 9.18 million cubic feet, and that of the Assuan Dam are 30.20 million cubic feet. The contents of the Mettur will be 54.67 million cubic feet, 50 per cent at least more than that of the biggest dam ever constructed hitherto. Then we may consider the capacity of the reservoir. The Roosevelt is the largest artificial reservoir hitherto constructed with a capacity of 67,200 million cubic feet. The Mettur reservoir will have a capacity of 93,500 million cubic feet. It is true that at present there is under construction, I believe, in America a dam which will be larger in every way, namely, the Hoover Dam. I think there can be no doubt that engineers of all countries in the world will come to visit Mettur. Also visitors to India will, if possible, include Mettur in their tour. It seems to me, Sir, that it is most desirable therefore that the Mettur area should be maintained in a manner worthy of a great engineering work and also of this Presidency. The cost is comparatively small; we do not intend to spend as much on the park as has been spent on the beautiful park under the Krishnaraja Sagara Dam to which my hon. Friend, Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed, referred. We are very modest in our demands; we expect, moreover, that we shall get some return on our outlay. I think, Sir, therefore, that hon. Members will agree that it is most desirable that this work should be carried out.

"I will say one or two words in reply to Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed's request for information as to what we are going to do with the buildings, etc., at Mettur. That is a matter which has been engaging our

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attention for some years, and as hon. Members may remember we had a pamphlet drawn of which I have got a copy here about the industrial possibilities at Mettur. Copies of this pamphlet were distributed to every Member of this Council and to various Chambers of Commerce and to others likely to be interested. Copies were sent to the High Commissioner for India in London for distribution to persons interested in industries there. Government do not want to start industries themselves. They prefer to leave the development of industries to private undertakings.

“ But there is no doubt that there are great possibilities for industrial development at Mettur. One or two persons are already making enquiries with the object of starting industries there. It is most desirable that any industries that may be in view should be started without further delay, as the dam will be completed within another six months. Already a number of lines for coolies are vacant and we are having requests from the Superintendent of the Works for orders whether he may pull down those lines, but so far we have left them alone as they may be useful for some industry or other. We have already established there protected water-supply, underground drainage works, roads and buildings; anti-malarial measures are in operation and there are hospitals and schools. Everything is there. If some industries are to be started there, these buildings need not be dismantled but their value can be credited to the Mettur Project. I am most anxious that that should be done. It will certainly be agreed on all hands that it is very desirable that we should carefully consider whether anything can be done for the establishment of industries at Mettur.

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“ My hon. Friend also stated that possibly the Government might make use of these buildings for a tuberculosis or leper settlement. I may mention that about two years ago we asked all heads of departments whether they could make any use of any portion of the Mettur buildings and the only reply we had, I think, was for a building or two for the Fisheries Department for a small staff. The question of utilizing the settlement or a portion of it for a leper settlement has, I believe, been under consideration and owing to financial stringency or for some other reason, it has not been possible for the Government to take up the proposal. Lastly, Sir, I may say, that the matter is most urgent and I will ask all the departments to reconsider the question.”

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—“ Although I am not convinced by the hon. Member's reply, I withdraw the motion.”

The cut motion was by leave withdrawn.

The demand was then put and carried and the grant was made.

GRANT XI—MINISTERS, CIVIL SECRETARIATS AND MISCELLANEOUS—
TRANSFERRED.

* The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—“ Mr. President, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

‘ that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 5,000 under Grant XI—Ministers, Civil Secretariats and Miscellaneous—Transferred.’

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"Sir, in May 1932, the Government issued rules that a sum of Rs. 5,000 should be collected from panchayats other than panchayats which were unions on the 25th August 1930 to meet the cost of the first elections to those boards. A sum of Rs. 12,841 was accordingly collected in 1932-33; but as the elections could not be completed that year, only Rs. 4,643 was spent. The elections have now been completed and this supplementary demand for Rs. 5,000 is for expenses in that connexion. The total recoveries in the year 1932-33 and 1933-34 will however exceed the total expenditure in these two years by Rs. 3,173 and thus there will be a net surplus of Rs. 3,173. No expenditure will be incurred from provincial revenues."

* Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—"Sir, I move—

'that the allotment of Rs. 5,000 under Grant XI—Ministers, Civil Secretariats and Miscellaneous—Transferred, be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"My object in moving this cut motion is to urge the necessity for devising a system by which the illiterate voters at panchayat elections may be enabled to vote and at the same time preserve the secrecy of the ballot. It is a legitimate ambition for the hon. Minister to entertain the hope to extend the number and thus increase the usefulness of the panchayat boards in the Presidency; but unless the system of voting now in vogue is changed and improvements in one or two directions, of which I shall speak on another occasion, are effected, we would not have real democracy working in the rural areas. It is agreed on all hands that the illiterate voter also should be enabled to cast his vote in secrecy. But how it is to be done is the question. In Bombay and Mysore they have put in operation a system of their own, but I am not in a position to say how far it is satisfactory. So far as our Presidency is concerned, we have already recognized the necessity for guaranteeing freedom of voting to the illiterate electors by introducing what is called the coloured-box system. That system was intended to secure the voters from being influenced by the man with the long purse or other undue influences. I am convinced that we should devise some satisfactory scheme for guaranteeing the illiterate voter from being known to whom he votes before we extend the number of panchayats. The coloured-box system does not serve the purpose intended and is therefore unsatisfactory. The voting papers are plain blank papers and put by the voters in the boxes representing the various candidates in the sheds or rooms. Boxes cannot be seen by others as otherwise there is no secrecy. Instead of putting it in one of the coloured boxes, there is nothing to prevent him from getting it back with him, hand it over to the candidate or his agent who gets it deposited in the coloured box pertaining to him. By this means, the object with which the Government introduced the coloured-box system is frustrated. Thus, although this system found favour with the Indian Franchise Committee, its defect was not noticed. I therefore suggest that instead of the coloured boxes, if in the ballot paper itself, different colours are printed against the names of the candidates and the

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voters made to mark in the room and the ballot paper handed over to the polling officer as usual, the voters could easily exercise their franchise without being known. Unless some such system is adopted by the Government, there is no use in developing the panchayat institutions. I hope the hon. Minister will see his way to devise some system by which the illiterate voter can vote in secrecy before he further extends the panchayat system."

Mr. M. A. NAIKAVELU NAYAKAR:—" Sir, I am in favour of the view expressed that a system of voting should be devised which will shield the illiterate voter. Now, we have introduced the system of election in numerous local bodies. If democratic institutions are to work successfully, ample freedom should be given to the voter to exercise his vote in the way he chooses. It has been several times brought to the notice of the Government that, for this purpose, either the coloured-box system or the system by which the candidates would be represented by particular animals or other such symbols, should be introduced. I am sorry, Sir, that this question has not been paid the attention which it deserves. If the democratic institutions are to be as representative of the public as they ought to be, the Government should devise a system for enabling the illiterate voters to exercise their franchise freely and without influence being brought to bear upon them. I wish, Sir, that the hon. Minister takes up this question in right earnest and tries at least as an experiment the possibility of introducing a system which will ensure secrecy in the matter of voting."

* The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" I am very much indebted to the hon. Members for pointing out some of the existing defects in the system of election to panchayat courts. No doubt the present methods are not ideal ones and are not free from defects. Unless there is strong public opinion against the defects of any system, any measures adopted by the Government will prove of no avail. My hon. Friend, Mr. Koti Reddi, who has personal knowledge of one or two such cases, considers that similar things occur in every election throughout the province. I do not think that conditions are as bad as he represents them to be. No doubt I do realize that in certain cases things have not been quite satisfactory. Recently a system of coloured box has been introduced and it provides for each candidate standing for election having a particular colour printed in the ballot box, so that the illiterate voters can make their choice according to the respective colours which the candidates standing for election are given. The Inspector of Local Boards and Municipal Councils has been requested to make draft rules regarding this matter. Of course this system has to be tried and seen how far it will be successful. I shall be pleased to give hon. Members any further information that they may desire if they meet me after the Council meeting. I shall also be grateful to them if they have any further useful suggestions to make in connexion with this matter."

12-45
p.m.

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—" In view of the assurance given, I beg to withdraw my 'cut motion.'"

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The cut motion was by leave withdrawn.

The demand was put and carried and the grant made.

GRANT XIX—MEDICAL.

* The hon. Sir MAHOMED USMAN:—" Mr. President, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move—
'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 100 under Grant XIX—Medical.'

" Sir, this is a token demand for meeting the expenditure on travelling and other allowances to the members nominated and elected to the All-India Medical Council and contingencies (conduct of elections). We have to spend about Rs. 400 in connexion with the election as non-recurring expenditure and about Rs. 1,800 on travelling allowances as recurring expenditure. The full particulars are given in the note. The Accountant-General who was consulted wants a vote of this House for this expenditure. Therefore I have come here with this token demand."

The demand was put and carried and the grant made.

GRANT XXVII—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS—RESERVED.

* The hon. Sir MAHOMED USMAN:—" Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move—
'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 31,000 under Grant XXVII—Miscellaneous Departments—Reserved.'

" Sir, as stated in the explanatory notes, the Labour Commissioner has reported that he requires Rs. 29,400 for the purpose of employing an assistant manager on Rs. 2,065, lighting charges Rs. 1,300, maintenance of incapables Rs. 2,000, sick charges Rs. 350, travelling allowance Rs. 900, maintenance of settlers Rs. 17,000, office building Rs. 3,000 and laying down of new pipe lines in place of old at Bitragunta and their maintenance Rs. 1,925. We also require Rs. 1,600 for payment of compensation to the Salvation Army for the meeting hall in the Sitanagaram Settlement, the management of which has been taken over by the Government. The reason why we want these amounts is clearly stated in the explanatory notes and I have nothing more to add. I request the House to pass this demand."

The demand was put and carried and the grant made.

IX.—EXCESS DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1931-32.

* The hon. Sir HOPEFOUN STOKES:—" I beg to move—
'(a) that an additional sum not exceeding Rs. 45,497 be granted under "Grant XXX—Civil Works—Establishment and Tools and Plant" to make good the excess expenditure incurred in the year 1931-32;
'(b) that an additional sum not exceeding Rs. 1,786 be granted under "Grant XXXVIII—Refunds of Revenue—Reserved and Transferred" to make good the excess expenditure incurred in the year 1931-32.'

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"These two items of expenditure have been found in making up the accounts of the year's expenditure. They have been submitted to the Public Accounts Committee which, in both the cases, has recommended that the excess grants should be moved in the Legislative Council in order to regularize the expenditure. I think hon. Members have already in their hands explanatory notes relating to both these items and I trust they will find all the necessary information there. Therefore I do not want to detain the House by going into details now."

The hon. Sir MAHOMED USMAN:—"I beg to second it."

The demands were put and carried and the grants made.

X.—A BILL FURTHER TO AMEND THE MADRAS CITY CIVIL COURT ACT, 1892 (BILL No. 14 OF 1933).

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I beg to introduce—

'a Bill further to amend the Madras City Civil Court Act, 1892 (Bill No. 14 of 1933) and move that it be referred to a Select Committee consisting of Members whose names have already been circulated to hon. Members.'

"For the benefit of the House I shall read the names:—

1. Diwan Bahadur Sir Alladi Krishnaswami Ayyar (Advocate-General).
2. Mr. G. Sriramulu.
3. „ T. Sundara Rao Nayudu.
4. „ M. A. Muthiah Chettiar.
5. Dr. P. Subbarayan.
6. Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti.
7. „ Basheer Ahmed Sayeed.
8. „ Mahboob Ali Baig.
9. „ K. P. Raman Menon.
10. „ A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar.
11. Rao Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar.
12. Mr. F. Birley.
13. „ R. Madanagopal Nayudu.
14. „ T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar.
15. The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar (Mover).

Sir, it is a very short Bill and the object of the Bill is to enhance the pecuniary jurisdiction of the Madras City Civil Court from its present maximum limit, viz., Rs. 2,500 to Rs. 10,000. The High Court has been strongly pressing upon the Government the need to introduce the present Bill for enhancing the jurisdiction of this court to Rs. 10,000. I may also mention that the Civil Justice Committee in 1925 reported that the pecuniary jurisdiction of the City Civil Court should be enhanced. My friends in this House will remember that the pecuniary limit of the Sub-Judges in the mufassal is unlimited. They have the right of disposing of suits whose valuation goes up to lakhs and crores of rupees and even the jurisdiction of a District Munsif is

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Rs. 3,000. Now, the jurisdiction, according to the existing circumstances of the City Civil Court is only Rs. 2,500 which, as I submitted already, is less than the pecuniary jurisdiction of a District Munsif. Let us compare the status of the Judges who are appointed to this court with that of others. Of course the Sub-Judges are superior to and more experienced than Munsifs and they are accordingly invested with the power of trying suits of any valuation. But the City Civil Judge is an officer who occupies a higher status than even Sub-Judges. For instance, the present City Civil Judge in Madras is a senior Sub-Judge and his juniors are acting as District Judges. So far as the capacity of the City Civil Judge in trying suits whose valuation goes up to Rs. 10,000 is concerned, there can be no doubt that he is certainly competent to dispose of such suits. There is also this further fact that the pressure of work caused by first and second appeals from the decisions of the Courts in the mufassal to the High Court, is very great and it is desirable in the interests of the litigant public that relief should be given to the High Court Judges, so that they may have more time to pay attention to first and second appeals. Thus, if the jurisdiction of the City Civil Court is enhanced to Rupees 10,000 the Judges of the High Court will find more time than they are able to devote at present to disposing of first and second appeals. I may also state that in the past several budget motions were tabled, though they were not reached for recommending to the Government the enhancement of the jurisdiction of the City Civil Court. The Bill is a very small measure which consists of only one section. I first wanted not to refer it to a Select Committee, but seeing that some of my European friends raised objection to the jurisdiction of the City Civil Court being enhanced, I thought it advisable to refer it to a Select Committee."

The hon. Sir MAHOMED USMAN:—"I second the motion."

1 P.M.

"Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"Mr. President, we should thank the hon. the Law Member for having agreed to refer this Bill to a Select Committee. I entirely agree with the arguments that he has put forward in favour of a measure of this kind. But there are some other aspects of the question which he should consider. In the first place I should like to know whether he has considered whether the existing condition of filings and disposals of suits, applications and petitions in the High Court of Judicature, justifies the enhancement of the jurisdiction of the City Civil Court. I quite remember that I myself on several occasions on the floor of this House asked whether the question of the enhancement of the jurisdiction of the City Civil Court was going to be settled by the Government or not. But it was at a time when the filing in the High Court was normal and the disposal of suits and appeals by the High Court on the appellate side was delayed. Similarly, filings and disposals with regard to the City Civil Court were normal. The nature of the work was such that it was possible for the High Court on the Original Side and the City Civil Court to cope with the situation. But as the hon. the Law Member himself knows, things have changed

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during the last two or three years. Whether in the changed circumstances there is still justification for enhancing the jurisdiction of the City Civil Court is a question which the Government should examine. The Government have also to examine whether the proposal to increase the jurisdiction up to Rs. 10,000 will involve any reduction of officers who are now dealing with Original Side matters in the High Court. For, is it not a fact that the number of officers dealing with Original Side cases, applications and other miscellaneous petitions has been increased during the course of the last five or six years since 1926 or 1927? The Government have to examine whether during these years there has not also been a corresponding decrease in the amount of work on the Original Side of the High Court. I want to ask the hon. the Law Member whether he will be able to tell the House or the Select Committee, whether on account of the less work that will be done by the Original Side of the High Court, officers of the Original Side will be able to help to dispose of the accumulating arrears of first appeals, second appeals, letters patent appeals and Criminal appeals on the Appellate Side—arrears which have been pending for years. I want also to know whether by these proposals, the Government will be able to save anything, because these are days of retrenchment when every pie will be valuable to the Government. These are days when the filings on the Original Side of the High Court are very small, and the filings in the City Civil Court also are very small. Therefore, if the jurisdiction of the City Civil Court is enhanced, there will be correspondingly less work for the Original Side of the High Court and the question will have to be considered whether there will be any need to retain the present strength of officers on the Original Side, unless it be that they are asked to help the Appellate Side officers in disposing of their arrears. I should also like to know whether the Madras Advocates' Association has been consulted in this matter and, if so, what their opinion is and what view the Government have taken of it. I want to know if the High Court have made their recommendations on this proposal and I ask the hon. the Law Member to take the House or the Select Committee into his confidence and tell us under what circumstances they made their recommendations and whether under the present circumstances they stick to those recommendations. The opinion of the judges of the City Civil Court, if it has been elicited, will be of great help to the Select Committee which is going to deal with the matter.

“There is one other point which I should like the hon. the Law Member to consider. This is a great change that is involved in the enhancement of the jurisdiction of the City Civil Court. I want to know whether it will affect the High Court Fees Rules and the interests of those vakils who are already suffering much on account of few filings and on account of the general depression everywhere. The hon. the Law Member is aware that the scale of fees payable to practitioners on the Original Side of the High Court is quite different from what obtains in the City Civil Court. I want to know whether the High Court has taken into consideration the alterations that will have to be made so that the position of the practitioners may not be affected

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and whether there will be any proposal to have a revised scale of fees for the City Civil Court. I wish the hon. the Law Member takes all these matters into his consideration, and places before the Select Committee all the materials that he might have at his disposal on which he has come to the conclusion that it is necessary to enhance the jurisdiction of the City Civil Court. I once more welcome this measure and appreciate the attitude the hon. the Law Member has taken in referring this Bill to a Select Committee in order that it may be considered in all its aspects."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Is the hon. the Law Member going to reply?"

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I do not think it is necessary, Mr. President. The hon. Member who has just spoken has not opposed my motion. I shall bear in mind all the suggestions he has made, and all the materials at the disposal of the Government will be placed before the Select Committee in the first instance and later on before the Council."

Rao Sahib Pandit GANALA RAMAMURTI:—"Mr. President, I move that the name of Mr. H. M. Jagannatham be added to the list of members of the Select Committee."

Swami A. S. SAHAJANANDAM:—"I second it."

The question was put and lost.

The question, that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee, as proposed by the hon. the Law Member, was put and carried.

XI.—A BILL TO AMEND THE MADRAS TOWN-PLANNING ACT, 1920 (BILL No. 1 OF 1934).^a

* The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"Mr. President, I beg to introduce a Bill to amend the Madras Town-Planning Act, 1920 (Bill No. 1 of 1934), and move that the Bill be taken into consideration."

"Mr. President, under the existing Act, only three years' time is given from the date of notification under section 14 of the Act for the acquisition of lands. But owing to reasons of finance and other causes it has been found that the local bodies have not been able to complete their town-planning and other details of the scheme within the statutory period of three years. The proposed amending Bill gives them the option of proceedings either under the Town-Planning Act or under the Land Acquisition Act. Of course in the case of proceedings under the Land Acquisition Act, the owner will be entitled to a compensation of 15 per cent prescribed under section 23 (2) of that Act."

"Advantage has been taken of this amending Bill to correct certain mistakes. In section 42 (3) of the Town-Planning Act, the reference to sections 35 and 40 of the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, is a mistake for sections 34 and 39 of that Act. That mistake has now been corrected."

Mr. E. CONRAN SMITH:—"I second it."

^a Published in the Fort St. George Gazette on 16th January 1934.

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The question that a Bill to amend the Madras Town-Planning Act, 1920 (Bill No. 1 of 1934), be taken into consideration was put and carried.

Clauses 1 to 6 were put and carried.

The Preamble was put and carried.

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"I beg to move that the Bill be passed into law."

Mr. T. SUNDARA RAO NAYUDU:—"I second it."

The motion was put and carried and the Bill was passed into law.

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"Mr. President, I suggest that the consideration of the next item on the agenda be taken up after lunch."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The House will now adjourn and reassemble at half past two."

(After lunch—2-30 p.m.)

XI.—A BILL TO AMEND THE MADRAS LOCAL BOARDS ACT, 1920, AND THE MADRAS ELEMENTARY EDUCATION ACT, 1920 (BILL NO. 2 OF 1934).*

* The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"Sir, I beg to introduce Bill No. 2 of 1934—a Bill to amend the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, and the Madras Elementary Education Act, 1920, for certain purposes—and move that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the undermentioned members:—

- (1) The Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri.
- (2) Mr. W. K. M. Langley.
- (3) „ P. Bayappa Reddi.
- (4) Rao Sahib N. Siva Raj.
- (5) Raja of Khallikote.
- (6) Diwan Bahadur A. Appadurai Pillai.
- (7) Mr. M. A. Muthiah Chettiyar.
- (8) Rao Bahadur G. Jagannatha Raju.
- (9) Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddi.
- (10) „ V. P. Narayanan Nambiyar.
- (11) Rao Sahib C. Jayaram Nayudu.
- (12) Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar.
- (13) „ R. M. Palat.
- (14) Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu.
- (15) Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari.
- (16) Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar.
- (17) Mr. T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar.
- (18) Dr. P. Subbarayan.
- (19) Khan Bahadur Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur.
- (20) The Pattagar of Palayakottai.
- (21) Mr. A. B. Shetty.
- (22) Khan Bahadur Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur.
- (23) Mr. A. McG. C. Tampoe.
- (24) „ F. Conran Smith.

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- (25) Rao Bahadur A. T. Pannirselvam.
- (26) „ T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar.
- (27) „ C. Natesa Mudaliyar.
- (28) Diwan Bahadur S. Ellappa Chettiyar.
- (29) Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar.
- (30) Sriman M. G. Patnaik Mahasayo.
- (31) Mr. P. Peddi Raju.
- (32) Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro.
- (33) Khan Sahib Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur.
- (34) Mr. G. Ranganatha Mudaliyar.
- (35) „ P. K. Ramachandra Padayachi.
- (36) „ A. Pl. N. V. Nadimuthu Pillai.
- (37) „ M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar.
- (38) Diwan Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar.
- (39) Mr. K. Koti Reddi.
- (40) Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai.
- (41) Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed.
- (42) The hon. the Raja of Bobbili—*Mover*.

As the number of members exceeds 15, I also beg to move that Standing Order No. 39 be suspended.

“The object of this Bill has been explained in the Press Communiqué issued by the Government on 6th January 1934 and printed as an appendix to this Bill—copies of which are in the hands of hon. Members. I do not therefore propose to take much of the valuable time of the House by repeating those arguments. Before touching upon the salient features of this measure, I wish to trace the history of the various proposals made from time to time to reduce the number of the different kinds of local bodies in this province. In G.O. No. 625, L. & M., dated 11th February 1926, the Government appointed a committee for investigating the possibility of making the village panchayats as the basis of local boards administration. The committee consisted of the following members:—

- (1) Late Raja of Panagal, Minister for Local Self-Government.
- (2) Rai Bahadur T. M. Narasimhacharlu.
- (3) The late Raja of Ramnad.
- (4) Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar (now Diwan Bahadur).
- (5) „ P. C. Venkatapathi Raju.
- (6) Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu.
- (7) Khan Bahadur Khalifullah Sahib Bahadur.
- (8) Mr. Ghattala Sahib.
- (9) Mr. F. Noyce (now Sir).
- (10) Diwan Bahadur N. Gopalaswami Ayyangar.
- (11) Mr. Narayana Rao Nayudu.
- (12) „ Ramachandra Mudaliyar.

I could not find the actual proceedings of the first meeting of the committee. It is stated in the printed note prepared by Diwan Bahadur N. Gopalaswami Ayyangar, who was the Inspector-General of Panchayats then, that the committee at its first meeting agreed tentatively that taluk boards might be abolished and that the financial

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resources might be distributed between the district boards and the panchayat boards. Union boards might go out of existence. I have only mentioned some of the recommendations. I have not completed the list. These proposals were circulated to certain Collectors and district boards for opinion. Opinions were almost unanimous with regard to the question of the abolition of taluk boards. Then owing to the general elections, the matter was left over to be decided by the new Council. There was a change in the Ministry and the hon. Dr. Subbarayan, who was then in charge of Local Self-Government, decided in June 1927 that taluk boards should be abolished and the duties performed by them should be entrusted to subjects committees of the district boards, finance, sanitary, public works, etc. A Bill was actually drafted in 1928 on these lines and it was printed. But when it came to actual implication of these decisions, other counsels prevailed and the result has been the existing Local Boards Act, 1930, which provides for the constitution of a taluk board for each revenue taluk. On the repeal of the Village Panchayats Act, 1920, village panchayats were brought under the Local Boards Act and specific sources of income were allotted to them. In addition to the three pies' share in the land-cess, panchayats can levy profession-tax, licence fees during fairs and festivals, on markets, cart-stands and slaughter-houses. At the time of the passing of the Local Boards Act, 1920, there were only 2,000 panchayats. Now the number exceeds 5,000. They are increasing rapidly. I believe I am right in saying that we are all agreed that panchayats should be developed as the unit of local self-government, and so before long, the taluk boards will be deprived of both their income and functions. In accordance with the policy laid down in the amended Act, the number of taluk boards has increased from 130 to 208. Of these, 90 taluk boards have recurring deficits; 39 have just enough money to pay establishments, travelling allowance and contingencies. It will be thus seen that the majority of them, namely, 129 out of 208, are bankrupts and I am sure a fair number of the remainder have balanced budgets only on paper. Bifurcated taluk boards have been unable to satisfactorily maintain their hospitals and are able to provide little or no money for public services. It has been suggested that we should go back to the old system of multiple taluk boards; but in the year 1930-31, I find that out of 130 taluk boards, 46 of them were unable to balance their budgets. Owing to the allocation of specific sources of revenue to panchayats as mentioned above, there is no doubt that the majority of the old taluk boards would have large deficits by now if the *status quo* had been left undisturbed.

"Now, turning to the financial position of the district boards, the result of the amended Act and the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act has been to deprive them of an income of Rs. 33 lakhs in spite of drastic retrenchment. Under existing conditions 12 out of 25 district boards will work at a deficit. If normal provision is made for maintenance of roads and other services, considerable addition to their resources is necessary.

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"In the year 1932, a special officer was appointed to examine the financial position of the local boards. The main recommendation made by him was the restoration of tolls on non-motor vehicles. For the first two years drastic retrenchments were carried out in the budgets. Diversion and ear-marking of funds such as the Village Development Fund and the railway cess accumulations were permitted in order to balance the budgets, in the hope that normal conditions would be restored. But unfortunately the rapid deterioration of the financial position continues. In July 1933, a special staff was appointed to examine the financial position of the taluk boards and district boards. From the data collected we have issued the press communiqué. From a careful examination of the materials available, it is found that local boards are faced with an imminent financial breakdown. The Government have therefore come to the conclusion that there is no alternative but to abolish the taluk boards altogether. There is no service rendered by these intermediate boards which cannot be performed either by district boards or panchayats. Not only is this duplication of agency wasteful but a stage has been reached when the taluk board has outlived its usefulness.

"Now let us examine the structure of local self-government in some of our sister Provinces and States. In the United Provinces they have 45 district boards for a population of the same size as ours. In the Central Provinces they have district boards and local boards smaller in size than the revenue districts. In Bombay, the Re-organization Committee recently recommended the abolition of taluk boards in order to encourage the growth of panchayats, and to place the district boards on sound financial footing. In Mysore, which is a model State, taluk boards have been abolished.

"The proposals of the Government therefore provide for the abolition of the taluk boards and incidentally of the Village Development Fund and for the bifurcation of the larger district boards. As it is considered not worth while to plunge the Province in another general election within the triennium, transitory provisions have been devised.

"In this connexion I wish to state that certain doubts have been raised as to the wisdom of abolishing the Village Development Fund. But in actual practice I find that the purposes for which this fund was constituted, namely, construction of village roads, rural water-supply, public health—all these services are also to be provided by the district boards, and there will be no necessity, if the taluk boards are abolished, to continue this fund.

"It is proposed that out of this fund which amounts to about Rs. 16 lakhs, Rs. 5 lakhs, i.e., the additional three pies in the rupee, should be given to the panchayats and that the balance of Rs. 11 lakhs should go to the district boards. Of course this question of the abolishing of the Village Development Fund is not one of the principles underlying this Bill; it is a matter which in the opinion of the Government makes no difference. Whether you have it as a

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separate fund or add it to the general resources of the district boards—it is a matter for further consideration by the Select Committee.

“ It has also been stated, Sir, that regarding the provision for the appointment of an educational officer and the management and control of educational schools, the Government are depriving the local bodies of their powers and that in the future the entire control either in regard to the opening or the closing of the schools or in regard to the number of schools required for the district, will be in the hands of the Government. I may at once state that that is not the intention of the Government. I believe, Sir, I am right in saying that this provision follows generally or to a great extent the provisions in the City Municipal Act where there are provisions for statutory standing committees. If there is any such fear in the minds of hon. Members that the Government desire to take over control of these schools, I may state that it will be possible—if they still consider it necessary—to devise necessary safeguards in the Select Committee stage.

“ Another point that has been raised is the question of the fate of a large number of employees in taluk boards. Of course district boards are going to take over all the functions of the taluk boards, and I think as far as elementary education is concerned, all the staff would still remain, but under the charge of the district boards. As regards the remaining staff, it is believed that the district boards will at least have to retain 25 per cent of the existing establishment of the taluk boards and when the district boards are bifurcated, as proposed by the Government, we expect another 25 per cent to be absorbed. Government also propose to fix definite educational qualifications in the future for local board employees and also make other rules about retirement after the age of 55 years more stringent. They hope by these methods that a certain proportion of the remaining staff would be absorbed. However, there will be about 80 per cent still remaining; and Government have taken power to frame rules to see that in all future vacancies, whenever qualified taluk board employees are available, they are employed by the district boards.

“ Finally, I wish to state that with all the materials available to the Government, they have come to the conclusion that it is not possible to devise, without extra taxation, any methods by which all the three kinds of local bodies could be maintained. I do realize, Sir, that this is a very drastic change we are introducing in the structure of local self-government. Although I am gratified to see that the proposals of the Government have been welcomed by the Press generally and—subject of course to correction by my Friends opposite—by a large section of the population, yet I do realize that to a certain extent there is scope for difference of opinion in a matter like this. At the same time, I am sure that if hon. Members have any doubts, with the materials and data available to Government, I will be able to convince them that this is a step which will ultimately prove to be in the right direction. If there is any further information

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required or any doubts to be cleared during the course of the discussions, I shall be very glad to supply such information or clear such doubts."

Mr. T. SUNDARA RAO NAYUDU:—"I second it."

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Mr. President, it was with considerable hesitation, Sir, that I gave notice of an amendment—

'that the consideration of this subject be deferred pending a report of an enquiry committee of the condition of local bodies and recommendations to improve and place them on a sound financial footing.'

I know, Sir, it was stated in one of the speeches made by the hon. the Raja of Bobbili that as a result of deep thinking covering a period of not less than six months, he had come to the conclusion that the taluk boards should be abolished; and I may say for that reason that the hon. the Raja of Bobbili has acquired very soon the habit of riding a coach and four in his party. Sir, if the hon. the Raja of Bobbili had spent six months of his anxious time over this very difficult question and come to this conclusion, I can only say that the result of his deliberations has been quite erroneous and marks out—even as admitted by himself—a violent departure and a reactionary proposal made in the framework of local self-government. It is sought to be justified on the ground that many local bodies are on the verge of financial ruin and that the taluk boards themselves have no particular duties to perform which cannot be performed by one or other of the other two bodies. Sir, I would like in this connexion to draw the attention of the hon. the Minister to the previous history of local self-governing institutions in this Presidency. I have been under the very consoling and gratifying belief that Madras, so far as the Local Self-Government Department is concerned, is leading and is an example to many other Provinces in this country; but I am sorry to find that the hon. the Chief Minister is making himself responsible for shunting Madras to a backward position of copying some unimproved policies of other Provinces in the matter.

"Sir, it is nearly eighty years ago that the idea of developing local self-governing institutions in this Presidency arose and it was due to a Collector that this idea originated. He persuaded the Government to allot some amount of money for the purpose of local expenditure and to constitute committees of a number of the local people in order that their needs might be properly looked into. It was about twenty years later that an actual Act was passed, constituting local bodies and allotting certain incomes to them and also assigning the duties to be performed by them. I should like to read what has now become a more advanced view than the hon. the Chief Minister's view, of the Governor-General in Council in regard to the formation of local units:

'In pursuance of this Act, i.e., the Act of 1871, the Government divided the Presidency into 36 circles and a gradual extension was contemplated . . .

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“ Those circle boards were not really revenue district boards, but were boards for areas less than a revenue district, and as a matter of fact, it was the taluk board that was originally started and later on only the district boards came into existence. Writing on the working of those boards, the Government observed :

‘ The boards have become more of a reality and power than they were in earlier days. Members begin to appreciate their functions and positions. They take greater interest in the discharge of their duties, while the people have learnt to value the work done for them by the boards and to look to them for help in all matters of local interest. Where so much has been done and where experience has shown that the institutions suit the people and supply their wants, we feel that great caution should be exercised in introducing radical changes, so that the result of the past and the hopes of the future may not in any way be imperilled.’

I may repeat that same advice to the hon. the Chief Minister, to be cautious in the matter of dislocating the framework that was established nearly seventy years ago.

“ Later on, the Governor-General in Council observed :

‘ We consider it absolutely necessary that in the first instance a district board should in all cases be nominated by the Government—this is, speaking of the nominations and elections. Its first duty would be to work out a scheme for taluk committees in those districts which are capable of this more advanced form of administration. Similarly the taluk boards when instituted would work out schemes of rural sanitary committees and unions.’

The Government of India in their various resolutions have indicated the supreme importance of making the unit of administration in matters connected with local self-government so limited in area as to ensure both local knowledge and local interest on the part of each member of the board or governing body, and has therefore concluded that ordinarily the taluka or tahsil should form the jurisdiction of the primary board, and have also stated that even smaller jurisdictions might be formed in favourable circumstances. ‘ The governing body or trustee of the unions should, we think, in the first instance be appointed by the taluk committee.’

“ Sir, that was the importance which the Government had given to the taluk boards. The *raison d'être* of giving so much importance to the taluk boards is the proximity of those institutions to the areas concerned.

“ We have known of instances where the functions of taluk boards 3 p.m.
have been taken over by district boards only with a view to neglect them. If I may cite a personal example, it was only yesterday that I motored to Venkatagiri and I was told that one of the roads which was originally with the taluk board was transferred to the district board and that its condition now is worse than a cart-track. My point is that if it is the idea of the Government to educate the people in the administration of their own affairs, if it is the idea of the Government to see that the needs of each locality should be zealously watched by the people living nearby, it is necessary that the taluk boards should be maintained. When a central body like the district board or a board with a lesser area than the present district board should

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be constituted, the persons attending those district boards will only be those who live around that area and naturally the amount that will be spent upon roads and other conveniences will be to suit the demands made by those persons who will actually be present at the meetings. It is not possible for poor people from outlying corners to attend a district board meeting in order to press upon the attention of the district board their local needs, as the district board would comprise in itself the representatives of other local areas as well.

“Now, with reference to the financial breakdown, I do not believe that financial breakdown is a novel feature so far as these local bodies are concerned. It has been there for a long time. In this connexion I have got to remind, that the duties which these local bodies are asked to administer are essentially those of Government. The Government created this agency for the purpose of discharging a part of their duties. If the agencies complain about want of funds, the remedy will not be by the abolition of that agency by which these amenities will be looked into but by replenishing the resources of these agencies. When we have constituted the local bodies and assigned certain portions of the revenue to those bodies, it is necessary that they should manage their affairs with their resources, is an argument which at any rate, the representatives of the people cannot agree. It may be an argument of the hon. the Finance Member. What were the conditions under which these local bodies were constituted? The mileage of roads maintained by district boards was 17,544,113 miles of new roads and 518 miles were in progress—I am speaking of the year 1880–81. Since then the mileage must have increased at least by 50 per cent; and who should finance the construction of these roads? Now, for the sake of example, let us take this point. If the taluk board is not able to maintain all the needs of the taluk, you must find some means of augmenting the resources of the taluk boards. As a matter of fact, instead of the Chief Minister asking the Finance Member to release a portion of the provincial revenues for this purpose, he asks him to give his support for abolishing them on the mere ground that there is no money—it seems rather a very sorry feature for the present administration. As a matter of fact, when the Government appointed a special officer to look into the financial condition of the local bodies, at a particular time when he was about to enter into the investigation of the financial condition of taluk boards, he was told ‘please stop there.’ Sir, this is the report, contained in the Government Order, quoted in paragraph 1 of the special officer:—

‘Government require me to make proposals for reconstituting taluk boards. Owing to various causes, several taluk boards have not been constituted by Government in the period of my special duty and the period of my special duty was very short; I am told I need not visit the concerned taluk boards to discuss and settle the reallocation of the resources.’

Therefore, Sir, this special officer who was specially appointed to look into the financial condition of these taluk boards has been told ‘You had better not get into the field,’ because even by that time Government had made up their minds to abolish the taluk boards and transfer the revenues to district boards.

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" Now, Sir, with regard to the district boards, the report is a very eloquent commentary upon the most unsatisfactory condition of the finances of the district boards. If there is any justification for the abolition of the boards on account of their financial condition it is the district boards. The hon. the Minister would not touch them, because there are many district board presidents on that side. But, let them all transfer themselves to this side, I will see if they vote for the abolition of district boards or taluk boards. The following are the figures dealing with the financial position of the district boards. Receipts Rs. 13,68,30,000 and expenditure Rs. 1,51,31,500; and these figures were made from the budget of each district. Calculations were made in cases where the toll compensation was taken at a figure fixed by Government. In the case of the Chingleput district board for example the budget does not include provision for capital or unforeseen expenditure. The revenues of many of the district boards are only under estimates. Deficits in the case of district boards is a serious one. The special officer has remarked that the loss of revenue from very important sources, namely, land-cess, tolls and licence fees in the course of one year, has made readjustment difficult. Therefore, Sir, if there is any financial breakdown, it is in the case of district boards. It is with a view to go to the rescue of these famished and financially ruined district boards that the hon. the Chief Minister wants to abolish the taluk boards.

" Now, Sir, who brought about this financial ruin even to these district boards. It was the disregard of the sane advice not to pass the Motor Vehicles Taxation Act that has brought about all these difficulties. Let them deny that. They won't deny that, but they will say, we will try to remedy it by a restoration of the tolls on vehicles other than motors. It remains to be seen how far the Chief Minister is going to succeed in increasing the revenues of these local bodies by the levy of these tolls. Whatever that may be, the financial breakdown was brought about by the Government themselves. If the Government should own its mistake, it would be up to them to retrace their steps and rectify the mistake they have committed.

" After all, much criticism was levelled against the existing Act. Because every revenue taluk was constituted into a taluk board that the trouble has increased. Probably, this criticism is levelled on account of the fact that the framer of the Bill was Dr. Subbarayan and the Minister that was responsible for its passing was my hon. Friend, Mr. Muniswami Nayudu. Whatever that may be, the Justice Party was morally responsible for passing that Act. I would like to approve of the action of the Justice Party because it is a logical consequence of the development of local self-government of constituting taluk boards and smaller boards even for smaller areas in order to concentrate the attention of the local people to their needs and requirements. But, what the hon. the Chief Minister is doing is to go back and in going back he is doing the reverse of the very idea of self-government in this Presidency. On the one hand, Sir Samuel Hoare is cutting the ground under our feet by practically removing all powers

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which even a Provincial Government could possibly enjoy under the existing Act. To-day, in the Madras Presidency, the Raja of Bobbili would take his place in the matter of local self-governing institutions. That is exactly what is happening.

“ Now, Sir, as regards the question of inadequacy of funds for smaller areas, that is, a taluk board for each revenue taluk was anticipated and it was provided in the existing Act. That the Government do not want, for on the ground of finance it would be impossible to work a taluk board economically. Without taking advantage of the provisions of the existing Act, without understanding the consequences of hastily forming taluk boards for each revenue taluk, the Government proceed for reasons of their own and now they say that the taluk boards have become a failure on account of their constitution. After all, what is the time that has elapsed between the constitution of these taluk boards and to-day. Barely a year has passed between these two dates and now the hon. the Chief Minister wants to reconstitute the whole thing and abolish taluk boards. It seems to me, Sir, another serious and rash step that the Government is taking, very much in detriment to the whole idea of local self-government. Let him try to re-amalgamate the taluk boards into what they were previous to their constitution from each revenue taluk. I believe this argument was in a way anticipated in the speech of the hon. the Chief Minister. He said that even that will not do. What was the material placed before us for agreeing with the hon. the Chief Minister? As a matter of fact, he himself admits that there has not been sufficient material placed before the House or even before the public to agree with him without qualifications. As a matter of fact, at the end of his speech he began to make one confusion or another. He said that according to the Bill, taluk board presidents need not be worried about their seats; their seats would be secured and that he would take them into the reconstituted district boards. On the other hand, he would say to the disbanded employees, that 25 per cent would be taken to district boards, 25 per cent would be sent away on the ground that they have been superannuated and that at least 25 or 30 per cent would be absorbed. I am not very much concerned about the taluk board employees when I am discussing the question of local self-governing institutions. I will come to the question of their employment later on. Apart from the question of re-employment of these disbanded local board employees, are you doing the right thing for the local self-government institutions by proposing a radical change like this, is the question I would put to the hon. the Chief Minister. What he suggests now seems to me an ill-thought out measure. It is there that I would implore the hon. the Chief Minister to take counsel from persons outside, beyond the Secretariat rooms. There are any number of public men in this Presidency who are very well experienced in the matter of local self-government institutions. It would be far better and proper if you take counsel with public men and come to this House with a definite recommendation. It is with that view that I want the hon. the Chief Minister to take into his confidence public men—not merely

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Members of this Council into his confidence—and bring about a comprehensive measure, so that it might not be said that in a matter like this which affects the fundamental rights of self-government, that by sheer force of his party he was able to carry this measure.

“ Sir, what would result if this Bill were to be passed into law?—dislocation of the whole framework; centralization of the various works of these self-governing institutions and placing them in the hands of persons who are entirely out of touch with the local needs; disbandment of 2,000 hungry mouths; increase of clerical and technical employment in the reconstituted boards; increase of work to the Educational department; employment of panchayat officers; appointment of executive officers, and the abolition of village development fund. Sir, may I know which of these results is likely to bring in more revenue? I am afraid the hon. Minister is calculating rather wrongly of any possible saving that he would get by the abolition of these taluk boards. It was calculated that the savings would be about 8 lakhs and odd by the abolition. The same thing was said when the Motor Vehicles Taxation Act was passed—there is an unnecessary and undesirable intermediary between the tax-payer and the local board in the shape of the toll-gate contractor. The moment you abolish him, all that money would go into the treasury of the district boards. But the actual result is that the water-flow seems to have gone the other side, quite beyond the expectations of the persons concerned. So also, we have these things now. Sir, there is always a loose talk about these local bodies; at any rate, that loose talk emanates from persons who have become big by being members of these local bodies. They were at one time or another in such bodies, got their training and began to occupy their present places in public life. The moment they rise to the highest rung of the ladder, they take the earliest opportunity to decry the lower rungs of the ladder. I know of several presidents of district boards and hon. Ministers speaking night and day of the manner in which the local bodies are being administered and criticising not only the administration but to some extent the corruption that prevails there. But my submission is that no department of Government is immune from that charge. Sir, I have had occasion to speak to a certain friend of mine who had experience of contract work in the local bodies and Government departments. I do not think his opinion could possibly be refuted, and his opinion is that the payment for work done from the local bodies will be considerably less than what it would be in regard to the Public Works Department. After all, there have been some benami transactions and it is just possible that such transactions might have assumed different shapes in Government departments. So the complaint is general that there is a general deterioration of efficiency in the administration. There is no particular reason why the local bodies alone should be marked out for this kind of criticism. Sir, the hon. Minister said that if he wants any intelligent support to his measure, all that he has got to do is that he has got to place mere facts before this House. How is he going to submit those facts? Is it merely on the basis of area? Is it on the basis of popula-

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p.m.

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tion? Or is it on the basis of large revenues? It must be definitely stated, because I do not think any gentleman could be right to trust the Government to act, irrespective of party or political interests. I know instances how the elections have been attempted to be tampered with for purposes of party considerations? It may be this party or some other party. But these things must be placed above all party considerations. How is he going to reconstitute these district boards? Will it be on the ground that the president of the district board is a member of that party or this party? Is it going to be merely on the basis of area? Or is it merely on the possibility of the reconstituted boards being able to meet the needs of the locality much more efficiently than what is now being done? Secondly, I will now come to the question of the disbandment of these 2,000 men. In these days when the Governments are straining their nerves to launch public works for the purpose of relieving unemployment, it seems to me unfortunate that it should rest with the hon. Minister, leading a so-called popular party, to make these employees go out of their jobs. Sir, what their plight will be may be better imagined than described. I have had a typical letter from one of the taluk board employees; he says: 'I am a young man of 30 years of age. I was employed only three years ago. Thinking this post will be permanent, I got married and even by this time got two children. I do not know what is going to happen to me, my wife and children.' (Laughter.) Sir, that is the kind of plaintive and pitious cry that we receive day to day with regard to the abolition of the taluk boards. Now, all these could possibly be ignored if this is going to improve the position. I am afraid it will not. But if, in the opinion of the hon. Minister, it will, let us know what is the increase in establishment that would be necessary for the reconstituted district boards. Let them tell us how many clerks the reconstituted district boards will have to employ and whether there won't be the appointment of district board engineers for the new district boards. Because these have a greater bearing on the question. If any duplication of the establishment is going to occur by way of appointment of district board engineers, supervising officers and all the rest of that, what is the actual saving that can be accrued to these local bodies by the abolition of the taluk boards? Then, with regard to the education, the hon. Minister seems to have modified his opinion as a result of six months' training because he now says that he could possibly retain the control over the schools by constituting standing committees instead of handing over education to the Inspectors appointed by the Education department."

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"It is not that that I stated. It is never the intention of Government to take over these schools. If hon. Members have any doubt on the point, I am prepared to clear the doubts, in the Select Committee."

MR. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"There are very many doubts which could be cleared without going to members of his Party when the Bill comes to the Select Committee. But, whatever he says must pass muster in the public. Let us know really what the situation is."

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What are your ultimate proposals with regard to management and supervision of these institutions of education? I find from the report of the Special Officer that his recommendations are far more good than the recommendations made by the hon. Minister. With regard to the taluk boards, even though he was not allowed to examine the question completely, he suggested that 'secondly the most important function of a taluk board is the administration of the elementary education fund. Administratively, the taluk boards seem to be pre-occupied with the popular service of communications. The expenditure of these taluk boards, barring the ear-marked expenditure on elementary education, is largely on "management." In almost all offices, the strength of the staff is too much and the scales in an office is too many. Provision of funds for roads is not adequate if it is to finance adequately a reasonable length of roads and serves only to divert some money to ineffective channels of expenditure. Elementary education fund looms large in the financial transactions of the taluk boards. The fund balances itself in several taluk boards, though in some cases in Malabar, West Godavari and Kurnool, large diversions have been made, from this fund, while the liabilities to be met out of this fund have been left unliquidated. There seems to be avoidable waste in the organization of elementary schools, in the staffing them, and in the scales of pay ruling among the teachers.' Therefore the Special Officer has suggested drastic retrenchment wherever the Government found avoidable expenditure of money. Instead of doing that, to abolish taluk boards this year, to increase the taluk boards in 1935, to amalgamate them in 1936 and to abolish every taluk board and transfer them to Government in 1937 seems to be the policy of a capricious Minister and not that of a well-thinking Minister. I therefore think that instead of giving room for the complete dislocation of strength of local self-government sufficient counsel be taken from amongst members or from persons well tried in these matters of local self-government and consult persons who are interested in the running of these bodies. Along with this, I have got to say there have been boards that have not been even informed of the possibility of abolition. I know, Sir, and I say this with apologies to the district board presidents, several of whom are sitting on the opposite side. (A voice: 'What about those behind?') they are all with me. I know that these district board presidents have no sympathy for these taluk board presidents. They seem to be considering as competing bodies. That was not the intention of these bodies at all. The district board president is practically in the place of the Government, supervising the work of the taluk boards with a parental regard and affection, to advise them whenever necessary and conduct their affairs. Instead of that, there seems to be jealousy between the district board and the taluk board presidents. If only there are taluk board presidents in this Council, I am sure this Bill will not see the light of day.

"But, as it is, it is not necessary in the interests of taluk board presidents or in the interests of particular bodies that this matter ought

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to be considered. We have got to examine the question purely from the point of view of concentrating attention on the local people for the local needs and as far as possible decentralize power to the local areas. It is with this view that I move this motion."

* Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"Sir, I second this motion. I am not at all sure that the Government are well advised in coming forward with this measure, which the hon. Minister himself admits, proposes rather too drastic a change. It is rather strange that the Government have not cared to consult even the local bodies on this matter. As my hon. Friend, Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, said, the Government themselves are responsible for the present financial plight of the local bodies. It is their amending Act of 1930 which has led to the increase in the number of taluk boards from 130 to 203, and the formation of the village development fund that is mainly responsible for the present difficult financial position of the local bodies. The Motor Vehicles Taxation Act has further depleted their resources.

"Sir, some time ago, the Special Officer who was appointed by the Government to consider the stabilization of the financial position of the local bodies presented a report to the Government. I do not find in his report that he recommends the abolition of taluk boards for the purpose of strengthening the financial position of local bodies. Though he did not scrutinize the financial position of taluk boards for the reasons stated in the report, he suggests that the splitting up of taluk boards should not be carried too far. Government do not seem to have paid heed to most of his recommendations. They have not yet given effect to the main recommendation made by him, viz., the re-imposition of tolls on non-motor vehicles, though they have expressed their approval regarding it. They have not so far come forward with the necessary amending Bill. The Special Officer has said that the strength of the staff in several taluk boards is too much and that the scales of pay also are too many. In this respect also no steps have been taken to see that the taluk boards effect retrenchment in their expenditure. The Government say that they expect to save about 8.87 lakhs by the abolition of taluk boards. That is the net gain to the district boards which they hope to bring about as a result of the abolition of taluk boards. I am afraid, that the estimate of the Government in the matter is likely to be found erroneous. A similar miscalculation was made, when they abolished the tolls. This House, therefore, would like to know how the Government arrived at the figure given in their communiqué. What is the saving they hope to effect by the proposal to abolish taluk boards? The roads and the schools will have to be maintained and will be there. So also the dispensaries. The hon. Minister says that a large percentage of the taluk board employees will have to be absorbed in the district board service. So the only saving which can be made is in the pay of a few poorly-paid clerks and peons who will have to be thrown out of employment and in the travelling allowance of presidents and members. As against this, there is the proposal to have several new highly-paid officers. Taking the taluk board employees

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into district board service will mean giving increased scales of pay to these people, because the scale of pay obtaining in the taluk boards is less than the scale obtaining in the district boards. The District Board offices will have to be almost as big as the Collectors' offices, and money spent for providing increased accommodation by extending the office buildings. Further, if there is going to be bifurcation of district boards, it will mean still further expenditure. Again, increase in the number of panchayats will necessarily mean also considerable expenditure on establishment and contingencies. The saving, if any, will be inappreciable and temporary. Expenditure will increase before long and we shall be faced with a similar problem.

"The abolition of the village development fund, it is expected, will bring in some money to the district boards. That is a miscalculation because with the formation of panchayats this amount will have to be made available to them. The six pies cess will have to go entirely to panchayats which are formed and nothing will remain for the district boards. I need hardly say how difficult it will be for the district board presidents or any other officers at the headquarters to supervise the elementary schools which are spread out in the whole district and how hard it will be for them to look after the panchayats. I have my own doubts if the panchayats already started are functioning successfully. The Special Officer in his report says that the panchayats so far started are either dragging on a nominal existence or that their position is uncertain and undetermined. I would say that if panchayats are found working successfully in any particular taluk and they can take over the function of the taluk board, Government may abolish the taluk board there and thus proceed cautiously and slowly in this matter. That should be preferred to the policy of abolishing by one stroke of the pen all taluk boards all over the Presidency. Government can reamalgamate the taluk boards which have been split up and thus reduce their number. The financial position will certainly improve if they reduce the number of taluk boards and have one board for each revenue division. Before considering such remedies Government ought not to rush through with this sweeping measure. If Government had told the taluk boards: 'Look here, you must adjust your budget by effecting retrenchment. If you cannot do that, you will have to go,' I am sure many taluk boards would have set their house in order, and if there were any that were unable to do so, you could have dealt with them in the manner you now suggest. Let the Government examine the position and find out which taluk boards are financially weak and unable to balance their budgets. The Government ought to have taken care to see, even at the time they thought of splitting up taluk boards, whether the new institutions thus set up would be able to stand on their own legs. They did not do so. They are committing one blunder after another. I hope, Sir, that the hon. Minister will not rush through with this Bill on the strength of the majority behind him, but will take counsel and see in what way he could really stabilize the finances of local bodies."

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* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The amendment of Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti is that the consideration of the Madras Local Boards Act (Amending) Bill be deferred pending a report of an enquiry committee of the condition of local bodies and recommendations to improve and place them on a sound financial footing. There are two more amendments. I would allow these two also to be moved, so that we may have discussion of all the amendments together."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move—

'that the Bill now before the House be circulated for eliciting public opinion and that such public opinion when obtained shall be placed before this House with the remarks of the Government thereon.'

"Sir, I am not so ambitious as the learned Member for the City. I know, Sir, there are limitations for a proposal of that kind placed before the Ministry in power. To appoint a public committee of enquiry and then make it go round eliciting public opinion might, according to the Ministerialists, involve questions of finance, questions of time and various other complications. So I do not wish to have that elaborate procedure contemplated by the Mover of the earlier motion. I confine myself to the practical measure usually adopted by constitutional bodies like ours, namely, that of asking that a measure which introduces such drastic changes in the existing state of affairs ought to be circulated to the public for eliciting public opinion thereon.

"Now, Sir, it will be asked whether there has not been enough opportunity given to the public by the Government by their publication of the Bill. Hon. Members of this House are aware that the Bill was published on the 18th of January by a Gazette Extraordinary and several Members received in the mufassal copy of the gazette only on the 19th or 20th morning and some gentlemen probably much later. So that, hardly a week or ten days have lapsed since the publication of the Bill. It is true that the Government notified their intention even earlier by a press communiqué which they issued on the 6th January. Between the 6th January and the introduction of the Bill to-day on the 29th, there has been only a period of three weeks. That period is not enough is my submission. A Bill which affects or proposes to do away with age-long institutions like the taluk boards, a Bill which affects 2,000 employees in those institutions, a Bill which affects adversely hundreds of persons besides these employees, should have been before the public for a longer time than three weeks. The Bill and the publication of the communiqué gave a rude shock to the members and presidents of the taluk boards, to the institutions which they were in charge of, to the employees of these taluk boards and not least, Sir, to the contractors that were connected with them. (Laughter.) When such a rude shock was given by the press communiqué and later on by the Bill, I only plead for some more time being given to the public, to the persons interested in this measure, and to local self-government institutions generally to suggest better and more practical measures to avoid the present situation.

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"Sir, the reason why the taluk boards were brought into existence has been elaborately explained by the learned Member for the City. I do not wish to traverse the same ground. I would only mention, Sir, that it was with a view to decentralize local self-government and to have in between the district boards and the smallest unit the panchayat boards another institution, that the taluk boards were created. In the West, smaller areas than the taluks are constituted into councils and boards. Following that example and with a view to give greater opportunities and greater facilities for the members of the public to train themselves to be better citizens, the taluk boards were instituted. Now by means of this Bill, it is proposed to take away those opportunities available to the members of the public to become better and better citizens.

"The opportunities that would be available to them being taken away, there must be something which would serve as a substitute for those opportunities. Will the bifurcation of one or two, or three or four district boards be an adequate substitute for the large number of people who will be thrown out without any opportunity or facility of taking part in the self-governing institutions like the taluk board? Another reason why I say that this Bill should be circulated for eliciting public opinion is this: the very bodies which are affected by this measure are primarily taluk boards, and secondarily the district boards and also the panchayat boards. They have not been given any opportunity to explain what exactly their position is, what their attitude would be if this Bill is passed, and how the taluk boards propose to better their financial condition. It might be after the draft Bill was published, that it would be possible for some of the district boards and panchayat boards to give their opinions as to how they propose to meet the budget deficits and how they propose to improve their financial condition. Probably I would not be surprised if several of the taluk boards were to come forward and suggest that there are other sources which could be tapped. It might be that some of the taluk boards would have proposed quarter or half an anna increase instead of agreeing to the total abolition of the taluk boards as a whole. I quite agree that there is a world-wide agitation for the remission of land revenue. But I ask whether it is right to take away the opportunities of these taluk boards in participating in the conduct of self-governing institutions. If an opportunity is given to them to explain, it may be that they may put forward suggestions for the enhancement of cess or some other source of revenue. In the absence of the opinion of the district boards, taluk boards and panchayat boards on this measure, I consider it is but fair and reasonable that this measure should not be hurried through. Sir, from one point of view I should be glad and I will not hesitate to support the measure if it were proposed that we should go back to the old regime even before the amending Act of 1913 or that of 1920 came into force. If it were proposed that there is no other way of escape from the present situation except that of reverting back to the practice that existed in 1920, viz., of handing over these self-governing

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institutions to District Collectors and Revenue Divisional Officers and asking them to administer these institutions, probably from that one point of view, that measure would have received a certain amount of support. But is the position really so bad as that? I would like to know from the Government what exactly are the methods that they have tried to improve the financial situation of these taluk boards. How long have they tried? As has been pointed out, the amending Act has been in force practically for 16 or 17 months and there are many cases in which the election disputes are not yet over and probably they will not be over for a long time to come. That being the case in the course of 16 or 17 months, is it enough experience to come to a decision that these taluk boards are not wanted and that the only way of escape is to abolish them? If I am convinced that the only way that the Government have been able to find after exploring all means and methods is abolition, I shall not hesitate to support this measure. But I would wait for the hon. Minister to convince this House as to how exactly he has come to this conclusion and what are the materials placed before him for coming to such a conclusion. I may ask one question in passing: whether the hon. Minister has had the benefit of advice from the Local Self-Government Advisory Committee? If he has had the benefit of that Committee it would be very helpful if he places it before the Council for their perusal and consideration. I do not think—if I am wrong I may be corrected—that the Advisory Committee on Local Self-Government has had any opportunity of giving advice on a measure of this kind.

“Sir, one point that was raised by the hon. Member for the City of Madras was that the local self-government institutions are part and parcel of Government. If they are part and parcel, why not the Government consider the question of giving subsidies to such of the boards as have had deficit? Of course that will be answered easily by saying that the present finances do not permit such subsidies being given to them which are now financially in a breaking condition. But have the Government tried the method of giving subsidies at least to a few boards whether such a thing is possible or not? In the absence of any experiment in the direction of coming to the rescue of the taluk boards by giving them subsidies or suggesting drastic retrenchments in the expenditure on their services, is this the only alternative to the Government, viz., the abolition of these boards? For one thing, sentiment is against it; for another, there is the question of unemployment. Some 2,000 people are going to be out of employ. We are thankful to the hon. Minister for saying that 75 per cent of them will be absorbed, but what a length of time it would take before 75 per cent of these people get themselves absorbed? I am sure it will not be 10 or 12 years before all the 2,000 people get themselves re-employed. There is also this further complication; after the creation of these new taluk boards, there are those who were in the district board service and who were sent on promotions. And if such people are going to be re-employed by the district boards on a higher salary, I ask how it is going to improve the deficit. It will be an extra commitment to the district board funds.

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Regarding such complications and also regarding the question of re-employment of these persons, the hon. Minister has not made anything clear, although in other respects his speech has been illuminatory.

"I have always stood on the floor of this House for opposing hasty legislation. We have had enough experience of that and the standing monument of that is the Motor Vehicles Taxation Act of which I had the privilege, call it whatever you please, misfortune or fortune, of being the Chairman of the Select Committee. That Act has brought about a good deal of complications in the administration of the district boards. If sufficient means and methods have been found out to make up the loss of revenue, probably that would have been a very healthy movement. Instead of that you are going to be a party for the abolition of these taluk boards. If you give them a fair opportunity and ask them to make constructive suggestions and advise them that they must cut their coat according to their cloth and if they fail to do it, then it will be time enough for abolishing them. The hon. Minister quoted the analogy of the United Provinces and said that only district boards and panchayat boards existed there. But, Sir, in this Province where the district boards are so big and even the taluk boards are so big, is it conducive for the public spirit and for the political well-being to have the district boards at one end and the panchayat units at the other end? If you are going to increase the number of panchayats, will it not also increase the burden on the Government to that extent? I therefore say that it is eminently desirable that there should be a postponement of this measure, unless the hon. Minister is able to satisfy this House that postponement will lead to further complications from which we cannot recover. I am yet to learn from the hon. Minister as to what evidence or materials he has placed before this House that, if we do not pass this measure in the next session or in July or August, the whole thing will collapse and there will be nothing for the Government or the self-governing institutions to go on. I do not think any such case has been made out and I still wait for such a case being made out. If such a case is made out, I shall not hesitate to support the measure.

"I therefore move that this Bill be circulated for eliciting public opinion and such opinion when obtained shall be placed before the House with the remarks of the Government thereon."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"I rise to second the motion that the Bill be circulated for public opinion. If I do so, it is not because that we wish to oppose any measure that is brought forward by the Ministry in power. I admit that the hon. the Raja of Bobbili has realized the financial difficulties that these local bodies are experiencing in their day to day administration and it is on that account that he has brought forward this measure as the only remedy. Evidently that is his intention. I am afraid, in any attempt to find a remedy for the ills that these local bodies are suffering from, if we pass such a hasty legislation we shall be repeating the mistake that we have committed on former occasions. The analogy of Motor Vehicles Taxation Act has been

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repeated by every hon. Member. With such examples before us we must cry halt to legislations which are conceived in haste. As has been pointed out by the previous speakers, this measure has not been before the public for a long time. Every measure of this character which aims at the abolition of the existing boards, which affects the relationship between one set of people and another and which also affects the very living of a large number of people, as many as two thousands—a measure of such a character should not be expedited merely because, if we pass such a legislation, it may affect favourably the existing conditions of the local bodies in our Province.

4 p.m. “For one thing, if we abolished the taluk boards and contented ourselves merely with one or two boards for a district, we would be taking a retrograde step so far as the development of self-governing institutions in this Presidency is concerned. We must endeavour to have a system of self-governing bodies which will give training to a large number of people in the work of local self-government. The present system is certainly a means by which a large number of our people get their training in self-government and administration. By abolishing taluk boards, we would be removing the scope which a large number of public men now have of serving the people.

“The financial position of local bodies is one of the main arguments for the proposal to abolish taluk boards. But I am not sure that by abolishing taluk boards, the Government will be able to effect a large saving and make enough money available for the purposes of the district board. On the other hand, by centralizing the activities of the district in one board, it would be necessary to employ a large number of highly paid officers whereas local boards would be able to carry on their work with staffs on lesser pay. In any case, anybody who has any experience of local bodies will certainly agree with me when I say that any officer who has to look after a whole district will require not only a higher pay, but also various allowances which may amount to two or three times the salary that local boards will be paying to their own officers. At present we imagine that expenditure can be reduced by the abolition of taluk boards and that district boards can carry on the functions of taluk boards also with an addition of a small staff here and a small staff there. I am afraid we have only to abolish the taluk boards to see into what difficulties we will be landing ourselves. We have already had the experience of the Motor Vehicles Taxation Act and if we pass this Act and abolish taluk boards we will land ourselves not only in financial difficulties, but difficulties which will affect education, public health and other useful functions of local bodies very adversely. The people will ultimately suffer.

“The Bill proposes to abolish taluk boards and create one or two boards for a district to be known by the name of circle boards or some other name. I do not think that it will be enough if we have only two boards in such large districts as we have in our Province. I do not think the functions of local self-government can be discharged satisfactorily unless we have four to six boards for a district. If we can think of a

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system by which we can have four to six boards for a district instead of having one board for a taluk, we will be doing something to bring into existence a system of local bodies which will work without many practical difficulties. As has been already pointed out, if the district board appoints a district board engineer, or an educational officer or a health officer, he will have to do not only the work that he is now doing but at least three or four times that work. At present there are various other officers working under taluk boards who assist officers of the district board. If we abolish taluk boards and dispense with the services of officers working under taluk boards, the officers of the district board will have to be in charge of the whole district and it will not be possible for them to discharge their duties satisfactorily unless they have a number of subordinates under them such as assistant engineers, assistant health officers and assistant educational officers and so on. I am sure by the abolition of taluk boards, education is bound to suffer.

"It is said that the object of the Government in taking this step is to strengthen the hands of the panchayats, improve their status and give them additional powers so that they may serve more interests than they do at present. But the panchayat is a comparatively new institution. Although it existed before the British Government, it worked in a different way altogether from the panchayats that we have at present. Being a new institution, it will take some time before it could stand on its own legs and could be relied upon entirely for the administration of the area in its charge. Before that happens, I think a middle organization like a taluk board or a circle board is necessary between the district board and the panchayat.

"One of the most tragic results of the passing of this Act will be, as has been pointed out by hon. Members who have spoken before me, is the throwing out of employment of a large number of people, as many as 2,000. Of course, the Government may say: 'what does it matter if we add 2,000 persons to the army of unemployed which is already so big in our Province?' But certainly, it will be a wrong view to take of the matter. It will affect not only the 2,000 persons who are actually thrown out of employment, but it will affect their dependents also, most of whom are without employment. It will affect about 100,000 citizens of this Province. Are you going to throw these people out of employment and take the bread out of the mouths of about 100,000 people? Not only their bread, but their education and everything will be taken away. We have in this City and in the Province a large army of unemployed and the Government have done nothing to solve this problem which is becoming more and more acute every day. Instead of devising ways and means for finding employment for the unemployed, the Government would be adding to the army of unemployed, if they passed this Bill. May I ask, Sir, whether it is the duty of the Government to do so? (Sriman M. G. Patnaik Mahasaya: 'toll-gate contractors.') My hon. Friend, Mr. Patnaik, reminds me of toll-gate contractors. Of course there are not only toll-gate contractors, but a large number of people employed by these contractors. Even they were

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thrown out of employment and they are also there already. Therefore why add to the number by throwing out another 2,000 people who have at least 50,000 people depending on them and out of employment?

"Of course, I agree that there should be some solution to the difficulties facing the Government in the administration of local bodies, but this is not the remedy. If there is anything at the bottom of the trouble, it is the world-wide economic depression which has affected this country adversely. The people find that the taxes are too high and they are not able to pay them. That is why I say, we should not deal with this question in haste, as we dealt with the question of taxation of motor vehicles: We passed the Act in haste and repented afterwards."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The amendment as well as the main motion is for the discussion of the House."

* Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Sir, the hon. the Chief Minister said that the Bill that he has introduced is one that is far-reaching in its character and would affect very seriously the structure of local self-governing institutions. And unless for the reasons given by him, it is found that the solution he has proposed is the only possible or perhaps the best solution that one can think of, I do not think that it will be right for this Council to accept the principle underlying the Bill and refer it to a Select Committee. He has stated that one of the principles of the Bill which he considers essential is the abolition of taluk boards. As regards the Village Development Fund, he has no objection to leave it as it is, if the Council so desires. Therefore it is all the more necessary for us to see whether the objects he has in view, firstly of placing the finances of local bodies on a more satisfactory basis and secondly of making the panchayats more efficient and useful bodies—whether these objects can be achieved by the Bill now proposed. I hope, Sir, in the observations I am going to make to show that neither of these objects can be achieved by this present Bill. If, therefore, I support the amendment proposed Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, it is not with a view merely to criticise the Government but in order to see whether it is not necessary for the Government to get the co-operation of all parties and find out what will be the financial consequences of the various steps proposed in the Bill. If they do so they would be able to evolve a measure which will be not merely a party measure but a measure acceptable to all sides of the House and a measure which will solve the difficulties facing the local bodies. It is purely from that point of view that I propose to make a few remarks and not with a view to find faults. I am one of those who is keenly interested in local self-government and I should like to see that no hasty step is taken. There has been a lot of animadversion from all sides of the House about the hasty step taken in 1930 and with regard to the Motor Vehicles Taxation Act. Hon. Members have warned us that we should not repeat the mistake we committed in 1930. I quite agree with that. Whatever may be the reasons which have led to the failure of the Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, I for my part would advise the Government not to commit the same mistake and be accused of having been hasty in a matter of this sort. So far as they are concerned, they

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are face to face with a situation where many of the taluk boards which have been recently constituted under the Act of 1930 are not in a position financially to make both ends meet, and continuing them in that state would only increase their financial embarrassments and they would probably have to be superseded. Secondly the district boards also are not in a good position financially and they must be rehabilitated. Now the proposal of the hon. the Chief Minister is to abolish taluk boards and to divide district boards into smaller units, if, after careful examination of the finances, it is found possible to have two or three district Boards working in a district financially safe and sound. The spirit of the amended Act of 1930 had been ignored in many of the discussions. The amended Act of 1930 was to see that the units which deal with self-government are, as far as possible, local units having control over every local area and therefore being in a position to come into touch with the villagers in the local area more easily and more often than a district board can do. Secondly, that Act was passed with a view to avoid multiple taluk boards. The result of multiple taluk boards was that a number of persons who formed the majority worked the administration to the disadvantage and prejudice of other taluks which were not equally well represented, not having a godfather in the president or the vice-president. That was the feeling that was expressed on the floor of this House from time to time. I quite remember the resolution passed, that the Rajahmundry Taluk Board which consists of three taluks together should be divided into three taluk boards. Two of these three taluks had rich deltaic areas and the third taluk was a very dry area and that was the headquarters taluk. The result was, to the chagrin and prejudice of the two taluks, most of the funds was utilized for the drier taluk to which the president invariably belonged, and which had a majority on its side. It is with a view to avoid this conflict of interests between taluks and taluks and to see that the responsibility of administering a particular area within their resources must be in their own hands, that the amended Act was passed. After the duplication of these taluk boards, the feeling has grown up that that was not a right step, and there is no doubt there is some feeling that favours a return to the old system of having one taluk board for two or three taluks so that it may be financially sound. Even that proposition the hon. the Chief Minister has dismissed as unworthy of acceptance on the ground that even before the Act of 1930 was passed, some of the multiple taluk boards were financially unsound and therefore that will be no remedy whatever. But, Sir, as I said, the principle would be agreed that in matters of village administration and rural improvement, those immediately concerned with the improvement of the village should take up the management. They will have direct touch with the villagers. It will be a small area and the members can therefore be expected—they are non-officials—to bring to bear their experience and their ideas in regard to the equal treatment of the people and to improve the benefits. I know that there is the view that as district panchayat officers have been appointed by the hon. the Chief Minister, the village panchayats will be improved by these officers. If

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the hon. the Chief Minister should subscribe to the proposition that all matters relating to panchayats will be attended to by these officers alone—the non-official element not having much to do with them—I have nothing more to say. There are the non-officials who come from the villages themselves and who would therefore be able to suggest the various improvements to be carried out, and their opinion would be very valuable. I think that is all the more reason why the panchayat officers should take some amount of non-official advice and help in such matters.

“ If we examine the position, what do we find? This Bill does not provide for a better machinery for the purpose of helping the panchayats themselves. There is a passage in the Government communiqué which is printed along with the Bill. It is stated that ‘ it is generally agreed that the village panchayat should be developed as the unit of local self-government.’ We must thank the hon. the Chief Minister for this. ‘ The Government now feel that they have neglected this institution for a very long time. Taluk boards are expected to develop the panchayats. But in actual practice they are opposed to each other and experience has shown that the present system has not been conducive to the healthy development of village panchayats.’ The reasons are not given why the taluk boards have failed in this matter. Is it because they are incompetent to do the work? Is it because the funds are not utilized well? I will explain to the House the reason. There is a provision in the amended Act of 1930 that, wherever a panchayat is constituted, a portion of the land-cess will go to it and the balance only will go to the taluk board. The result is that taluk boards are not anxious to encourage the formation and growth of panchayats. That is the reason why the panchayats are not encouraged by the taluk boards. I would like to ask the hon. the Chief Minister how he has improved the position, and what he has done in his Bill. He proposes to abolish the taluk boards. He has retained a provision that the panchayats will be given a portion of the land-cess. There is also another provision that what has hitherto been going to the taluk boards, will hereafter go to the district boards. As there are 5,000 panchayat boards, a sum of Rs. 5 lakhs will be taken away by them, and the balance of Rs. 11 lakhs will go to the district boards hereafter. Is it the opinion of the hon. the Chief Minister that the district boards are going to give better treatment to the panchayats? They would also like to retain for themselves all the money and not hand over the money to the panchayats. Will they actually help the panchayats being formed, with the sure result that thereby a portion of their income will go to them? This step will not help the development of panchayats. The second proposal is that instead of a quarter-anna share, the hon. the Chief Minister would give an half-anna share to the panchayats on the abolition of the taluk boards. Is that the line to proceed with regard to panchayats? I do not want to say anything derogatory of their work. Everybody is anxious, as the Government are, that panchayats should work on proper lines. In 1930 it was recognized as a principle that a portion at least of the money derived from the villages should be spent in the villages themselves. A portion at least of the money collected

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may be handed over to the panchayats for that purpose. Panchayats thus only get a small sum of say Rs. 50. A village extends to over 5 miles with 50 or 60 hamlets. The sum of Rs. 50 has to be distributed among 50 or 60 hamlets. The experience of two or three years has shown that such small sums given are wasted by panchayats and that, on the other hand, it is better to have schemes of improvement throughout and panchayat financed to carry out such definite schemes. Schemes should be framed to see that the village development fund is put to the best advantage and utilized in pursuance of such schemes.

"It has been the experience of those people who have been working the panchayats rather successfully, that under the law, they are not given satisfactory financial help. The panchayats have many activities, improvement of village roads, maintenance of small dispensaries, etc. It is found that unless some of the panchayats join together and co-operate, it will not be possible for them to attend to all these matters. When Diwan Bahadur Gopalaswami Ayyangar was Registrar-General of Panchayats, he allowed certain panchayats in the Guntur district and in the Ramachandrapuram taluk in the East Godavari district to work in a co-operative spirit. Recently the Government have ordered that the law would not provide for any expenditure to be incurred by unions of panchayats. We do not find any provision to that effect in the present Bill. Whatever money is available, it should, in my opinion, be distributed to the panchayats so that they might be able to spend it well and effectively under any scheme which would benefit not only one village but a number of villages round about. If the Government want to help the panchayats, they should be given enough money so that they can satisfy their needs more effectively. If the taluk boards did not have sufficient interest in the improvement of panchayats, it is for this reason; for the last 40 years the taluk boards were getting certain funds and they have been maintaining certain institutions like schools and hospitals, and roads, etc. They find that all the money they can command, is hardly sufficient to run these institutions efficiently so much so, they have not been able to open new institutions and take up new activities. Therefore it is that the existing local boards are merely in a position of collectors of revenue and exponents of the revenue. If really the panchayats have to be helped, it is better to allow them to have an organization like the taluk board whose members will be representatives of the villages in that area, so that that body can co-ordinate the activities of the panchayats. You can entrust that body with the power of utilizing well the cess collected in that area for the benefit of not only one village here and one village there but for the benefit of a number of villages round about. We do not find any provision to that effect in the Bill. What we find is the statement that the panchayats have been neglected by the taluk boards in the past and that the district boards are expected to do what the taluk boards have failed to do. The present Bill proposes that everything that was done by the taluk boards so far, should hereafter be done by the district boards. The apathy and mismanagement will therefore be still there, and the panchayats will be left in the cold. Only instead of a quarter-anna share, the panchayats will hereafter get half-anna share. We must

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devise some method, some organization by which the panchayats will have a small local body, on which the panchayats will be effectively represented and which will carry out their duties much more effectively and easily. Whatever may be the ultimate form in which the Bill has emerged, if the Government are keen on improving panchayats, I think that the Government should devise some body which would be more compact, which would be more representative of the panchayats and which would do the work more satisfactorily than it has been doing so far. From that point of view, I should consider that the abolition of the taluk boards is highly undesirable. By all means re-organize them, re-organize them financially, re-organize them administratively, make them more responsible and more representative of the panchayats. Once the panchayats are constituted, let there be a small body which will be a federation of these panchayats, which will do its work efficiently and effectively and which will suggest what improvements should be carried out which will benefit not only one village but a number of villages round about. They may also extend their activities to more than one village by opening certain centres which will help, say for running fairs, markets, etc., which will be not only to the advantage of one village but to the advantage of many villages. It is in that direction, Sir, that there should be improvement. It is useless to expect the president of a district board, however conscientious he may be, to discharge his duties satisfactorily, with more than 5,000 villages scattered throughout his district. It is absolutely impossible for any one man to do it, and I think, we will be going back, as my friend over there pointed out, to the old position, instead of advancing. Therefore, considered from the point of view of the actual interests of the villages, the present Bill does not serve that purpose at all.

“ Let us now examine it also from another point of view. Does this Bill carry out the objects of the Chief Minister in economising the expenditure or in seeing that the amounts spent are not misspent or spent in wrong directions, so that they may be made available for better purposes? The hon. the Chief Minister said that in the United Provinces, with a population of 45 millions, they have no taluk boards there but that they have a larger number of sub-district boards. Unfortunately, Sir, we are not in a position now to know whether panchayats exist in the United Provinces, what the organization there is for the purpose of effectively controlling those panchayats, how they are helping those panchayats and such other things. We are here in this province already with a panchayat organization and with an anxiety to see that that panchayat organization spreads as much as possible. That question, Sir, has to be answered and I think the Government have to find the necessary materials to show that the district boards in the United Provinces which have been quoted, have worked in the direction in which this Bill is going to enable the future district boards in this Presidency to work. We may of course have something like 40 or 45 district boards, always no doubt on the condition that the condition of each of those boards should be sound and that we are thoroughly satisfied that no district board will become pauperized

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later on. We agree with the hon. Minister there and accept his statement to that extent; but what is the consequence? I have not got the latest figures with me here; but taking the year 1928-29—the year before the Act of 1930 was passed—the cost of management—of course it includes a staff of a head clerk, a sarishtadar, two clerks, travelling allowance, office contingencies, etc., but so far as office management is concerned—we find that for the whole province, the district boards and the taluk boards among themselves spent about Rs. 18 lakhs. When we analyse the figures still further, we find that the taluk boards alone spent about Rs. 8 or Rs. 9 lakhs—and I think that is also the figure given by the Chief Minister in his communiqué, when he referred to the saving that would be incurred by way of expenditure on office management as a result of the abolition of taluk boards. As I say, about Rs. 8 lakhs were spent by about 130 taluk boards; and now under this Bill you propose to have additional district boards. What does it come to, I ask? More than one district board for a district will mean that the present 25 district boards now functioning, with another 25 district boards added to them, will spend twice the amount, i.e., Rs. 20 lakhs as against the Rs. 18 lakhs now spent both by the district boards and the taluk boards at present. I do not want to hazard figures, Sir; I have the report itself here, and at page 144, I find that the first district is Anantapur. In the case of Anantapur, the district board expenditure is Rs. 20,000 and that of all the taluk boards is Rs. 20,000. If you take South Arcot, the district board spent Rs. 40,000 and all the taluk boards put together spent Rs. 42,000. If you take Bellary again, the district board spent Rs. 20,000 while the taluk boards spent Rs. 18,000. No doubt in certain cases in the delta areas, the expenditure of taluk boards was a little more, but there again the income of some taluk boards would be as big as that of a district board in Ceded districts. Anyway, if you take the average, taking all things into consideration, you find that the taluk boards all put together generally spend very nearly an amount equal to what the district board alone is spending in any district. Therefore, I say, if you are going to increase the number of district boards from 25 to 45, where is the money for their expenditure to come from? You will practically be spending on the establishment, management, etc., of the new district board what the taluk boards are spending or in some cases probably even more. It is stated in the communiqué:

‘It is anticipated that if the above proposals are given effect to, district boards will be placed in a stronger financial position and that there will be little difficulty in meeting the small additional expenditure involved in the splitting up of the more unwieldy boards.’

“I hope the Government are right in their calculations; but from the figures in the administration report for the year 1929, it looks to me that they are not correct in their assumption. On the other hand, I think that the immediate effect of cutting up the district boards into at least two, by doubling their present number, would be that you would be swelling up the expenditure as against the amount which it is hoped to save by the abolition of the taluk boards. The present Bill does not stop there; it goes further. Curiously enough, we had the

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appointment of 25 panchayat officers, whether the district boards liked it or not. So far as Malabar and South Kanara are concerned, when I toured those districts, I found they had no panchayats. I should like the presidents of those district boards, if they are here, to correct me if I am wrong when I say that we don't have any panchayats there, not even in the nature of union boards which we generally find in the East Coast districts. In those particular cases, the panchayat officers were not necessary; but if you are going to create more district boards, as the Bill says, then you will have one district board engineer, one educational officer, one panchayat officer, etc., in addition. (An hon. Member: 'No') My friend here says 'No'; but he is not the author of the Bill (Laughter). This is what is stated in the communiqué:

'If smaller district boards are constituted, it is proposed to have one District Board Engineer, and one District Panchayat Officer for each of the new district boards, but to have only one District Health Officer for an entire revenue district since the latter officer works largely under the direction of the Director of Public Health.'

"Certainly a panchayat officer must be there; but what will be the cost of having these district board engineers? They will cost in themselves something like Rs. 2 lakhs. The panchayat officer will cost another Rs. 2 lakhs; so that you will observe . . ."

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"On a small point of explanation, Sir. It is expected that we would be appointing one district board engineer for each of the new district boards; but there will be a reduction in the number of assistant engineers. On the average, an assistant engineer will cost about Rs. 350 while a district board engineer will cost about Rs. 600. So, it is expected that each district board engineer for the new boards will cost only about Rs. 250 while there will be a saving under 'assistant engineers'."

Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"But our sad experience has been not only to have district board engineers but assistant engineers also, because the district board engineer always wants the help of an assistant engineer. So far as district boards are concerned, they have retrenched assistant engineers to the lowest number possible. In many districts they have abolished a few of the assistant engineers already, but the provision in the Bill for the new district boards will mean that you will revive the assistant engineers' posts which have already been abolished. Whatever that may be, Sir, it cannot be said that there will be no additional expenditure incurred under that head. If you are going to have that additional expenditure, I ask, is it worthwhile abolishing the taluk boards and spending the money so saved on the offices of the district boards to come, their management, their engineers, panchayat officers, etc., and their establishments? I dare say each one of these officers would like to have his own office, his own contingencies, his own stationery, his own personal clerk and so on. As one who has been in touch with these boards, I know how these things go on multiplying from time to time. The result is that, though we start in the beginning with only one officer, there will be a good number of people who will have to be appointed as subordinates. Again,

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Sir, we have the provision here for an educational officer. That will again cost a lot of money. That is why I submit, Sir, that so far as any saving of expenditure is concerned consequent on the abolition of these taluk boards, I do not think it is really going to be such a large saving as it is expected it would be, nor can the statement that there is going to be any saving in the number of assistant engineers be correct.

“ There is another point. If there is any principle in having smaller boards with a view to get local opinion mobilized and to make the local people feel that their area is not being neglected, then the abolition of the taluk boards would lead to a centralization—I may even say over-centralization—of all power in the hands of one man, i.e., the president of the district board. When you take away the local boards and leave all the schools to be managed, about 500 or 600 of them, by the district board, the district board will have to increase its own staff. You will also be depriving the people in the local areas of the benefit of having their own local representatives on the boards who would speak on the lack of required number of schools in their locality or on the proper working thereof and such things. In that way, you will be indirectly substituting official control for the present non-official supervision; and I do not think anybody can subscribe to the principle that where non-official help is being taken, now, it should be scrapped completely and that we should go back to the old system of efficient official control. Nobody would grudge some amount of official control; but we are in our places here to see that non-official supervision does not suffer in efficiency, so that the administration itself might be perfect. If you really want to ascertain popular opinion in all matters, it is absolutely necessary that we should have smaller boards. The result of this abolition of taluk boards is rather doubtful and problematical, and I do not think it is really consistent with democratic principle, that we should sacrifice the possibility of having the help and co-operation of people from local areas and concentrating the whole power in one district board president.

“ There is also another important consideration. In this Bill there is really no attempt at trying to make the future district boards more efficient. We have had a Bill passed recently by which in most of the municipalities, executive officers were appointed; the important point there was to take away the executive powers vested in the chairman and vest them in the executive officer, so that all appointments, etc., in the subordinate ranks could be made by the executive officer himself. But what do we find in this Bill. The president with his wide powers will be there, and an executive officer will be appointed only if the Government so direct. Such officer would have no power or executive authority; the non-official president will not be relieved of the responsibility for carrying out the duties which are mostly in the nature of administrative work and which are not always popular. Therefore, I suggest that whatever the state of work, the hon. the Chief Minister will have to bear in mind that he should make definite provisions in this Bill that in the district boards, an executive officer will be appointed and that wherever the words ‘ President of the District Board ’

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occur, the words 'executive officer' are substituted, so that the executive authority may be vested in him and the officer may carry out whatever duties or works are laid down for him by the district board; and he will be directly responsible to the Government for attending to all necessary administrative work, including that of contracts, as he will be ultimately controlled and removed by the Government.

These are the directions, Sir, in which the Bill has failed seriously to tackle the problem. When we went through this Bill, it was not without some misgiving that we saw this proposal to bifurcate the district boards. I do not know if this provision is there for the purpose of satisfying some of those who have been thrown out of the office of district board president. Whatever it may be, I am afraid it will be a step in the wrong direction. May I, in this connexion, refer the hon. the Chief Minister to the opinion of one gentleman connected with the administration of the Local Self-Government Department, viz., Diwan Bahadur Ramachandra Rao who gave out his opinion that so far as education is concerned, it should be divorced from district and taluk boards. If you divorce the district or taluk board from elementary education and give it to the educational councils without sufficient safeguards, the same defects will continue to exist and it will not go far towards satisfying the needs of the people, except that there will be a mere transfer of control of hundreds of schools from the district boards. If such a step is taken, it must be possible to keep the local boards purely as organizations of panchayats, filled up by members who will be elected by panchayats and who will carry out the work of the panchayats and the money that is now being spent on the taluk boards can be ear-marked as a village development fund, from out of which the panchayat organizations will spend money for the benefit of the panchayat areas concerned.

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"Now, Sir, one can multiply instances of the way in which these things could be held. But certainly it is not my purpose to go about multiplying the instances. Some of these suggestions are made with a view to make them feel what their idea is, to make them feel that there are other methods which have to be explored before we take the extreme step. We should see if any alternative methods are available to see to what extent the present taluk boards can be changed to serve the interests of the panchayats than by killing them and making them the stepchildren of the district boards. It is not a step in the right direction. If there was one merit in the existing enactment it is in the constitution of the Village Development Fund.

"A special officer was appointed to consider to what extent the institutions under the taluk boards may be reorganized, having regard to the position of each taluk board. The object is that if in the case of any particular taluk board, if any institution was being maintained which could as well be done by the district board, then that institution may be handed over to the district board, thus relieving the taluk board of the responsibility for the institution and making it financially safe. If after such examination of the resources of each taluk board and the

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institutions maintained by it it is found that relief could be given to each one of such taluk boards by transferring some of the institutions to the district board, that will be one method in which the taluk boards' solvency could be restored. If, after transferring the institutions from the taluk boards, the district board finances require some strengthening up, then it was open to the Government to consider methods by which such strengthening could be done. Possibly one method will be to give a quarter-anna cess reserved for the Village Development Fund to the district board and make it a part of its general resources as a temporary measure. I ask, Sir, the Chief Minister whether he had taken any step in that direction towards the examination of the question of the reorganization of the taluk boards. The difficulty arose like this. The Government took away the headquarters hospitals to be managed by themselves. In such cases, the result was that considerable relief was given to certain taluk boards. The result is that there is not a uniformity of relief given to the taluk boards. It is therefore necessary to go into the question of the maintenance of the institutions under each taluk board and see what institutions could be taken away from them and handed over to the district boards. I may here point out that in 1920 a Committee was appointed called The Financial Relations Committee, presided over by Sir Muhammad Habibullah, and the members of it represented various district boards. It was decided by that committee that the relationship financially between the Government and the district boards should be readjusted on certain lines so that the Government might take responsibility for its due share of certain services. In regard to the trunk roads, the principle was accepted that the Government should bear the entire cost of maintenance and that the district board would be a mere agency to carry out the works subject to the whole cost being recouped by the Government. The district boards are now spending about 6 to 7 lakhs from their own resources, in addition to the Government grant to keep up the trunk roads. The Government therefore will have to make good that extra 6 to 7 lakhs which the district boards are meeting from their own resources. In regard to the second-class roads, the principle that was laid down was that the Government should make itself responsible for half the net cost and the district board should meet the other half cost. I believe now the district boards are spending on second-class roads something like 8 to 9 lakhs more than what they should had the Government met half the cost. The Government now gave only a definite sum of 14 lakhs though their share will be somewhere between 20 to 22 lakhs. As regards the high schools, a similar proposal was made and if the Government gave effect to it, there will be some saving to the district boards. If the Financial Relations Committee's report had been accepted in all these matters, there will be a substantial addition to the income of the district boards. In 1922, Government did not accept them on the ground of financial stringency. I have been at pains when I was in office to look into the position as to how much of these district boards' funds were being spent on capital works. It was found that

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the district boards had been spending large amounts in 1929-30 and before by way of opening new roads and making improvements. All these were possible because of the growing sources of revenue. In 1930, the income had fallen down. It was up to these bodies not to indulge in capital expenditure, but to continue services at normal state. Are not the Government to-day trying to do that? Are they not giving a remission to the ryots at the expense of Part II Schemes? Why not these boards do the same? I do hope that times are not going to be like these. Merely because we are face to face with a serious economic crisis, are we to abolish the taluk boards? The economic crisis affects not only the taluk boards and not only the district boards, but even Governments in the world. But, surely, the Government cannot avoid their liability and try to plunder the taluk boards for moneys to which the district boards are entitled from the Government. I am sure that in future years when the finances improve, the district boards could get the benefit from the Government and could be relieved to a considerable extent. But to get over the present financial year, it may be possible for the Government to come to the aid of the district boards temporarily. In that manner, the position of the taluk boards and the district boards may be saved. We are legislating for the future and not merely to meet the present difficulties. I think it would not be right that because we are now face to face with a temporary difficulty, the taluk boards should be abolished. As I have already said, the functions of the taluk boards must hereafter be to act as a sort of a small local authority co-ordinating the activities of the panchayats, helping the formation of new panchayats and taking steps to carry out such schemes of village development and improvement as may be in the interests of the group of villages. Reduced to those functions, the taluk boards have still a field for usefulness. Government might believe that panchayats can be formed and developed through official agencies by the appointment of the District Panchayat Officer. By that there is room for one officer or more than one officer. Their work will be purely official. They cannot bring to the work the influence which non-officials can command and the enthusiasm and the willingness which the non-officials' co-operation can ensure. If the hon. the Chief Minister should think that the officials alone should do all the work and the non-officials have no place, then I have no quarrel with him. But the whole idea of the taluk boards is that non-officials should be brought into active touch with the local problems and their experience and help should be availed of. Viewed from that point of view, it will be a retrograde step to abolish the taluk boards and to deprive the panchayats of the influence and co-operation which the non-officials in the locality can give. After all, the taluk boards are intended as organizations where people can be trained in the art of managing their own institutions. It will be running contrary to that spirit to abolish these taluk boards and deprive the people of that opportunity. Then, what about the Adi-Dravidas and Muslims that have been finding a place in these bodies? They were there in order to afford opportunities for all classes to get trained in the art of administration of local self-government.

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None of these communities will have sufficient opportunities hereafter of being trained in the art of local self-government. It will go a long way if people rub their shoulders together to know what administration is, what difficulties there are in the administration, and thus educate themselves in the administration of local self-government. For these reasons, the Government will be well advised to have a committee appointed for the purpose of seeing in what manner the financial difficulties could be readjusted and to explore other methods in which you can solve the situation and to see if while keeping the taluk boards serve the purposes for which they were intended the Bill could not be amended on such lines. It is time to consider to what extent the taluk boards may be reorganized so as to serve the purposes of the panchayats, and to see that their constitution is altered in a manner to permit the representation really of the panchayats. Their main purpose will be to organize these panchayats and to distribute these funds intended for rural reconstruction and thus to give an effective chance for the panchayats, to improve. It is from this point of view, I press that the Government will do well to consider their provisions carefully and avail themselves of the opportunity which by this resolution, we propose to give to make them consider the views of others and to see in what manner the proposed legislation could be modified in a manner acceptable to all."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Further discussion on this will continue on 2nd February.

"I appoint Mr. M. A. Muthiah Chettiyar as the Chairman of the Select Committee regarding the Bill further to amend the Madras City Civil Court Act.

"I may inform now that the agenda for to-morrow has not been received from the Government Press and so they could not be distributed this evening. The office will try to distribute the agenda papers to the Members to their City addresses to-night.

"For the information of the hon. Members I wish to tell that to-morrow we will take up non-official work consisting of Mr. Patnaik's Impartible Estates Bill, Mr. Basu Dev's Money Lenders Bill, Mr. Bhanoji Rao's Impartible Estates Bill and other Bills which are in the stage of introduction."

The House will now adjourn and meet again to-morrow at 11 a.m.

XIII.—PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

* 1. *Notification regarding dissolution and reconstitution of Palacole Municipal Council.*

† 2. *G.O. No. 2430, P.H., dated 31st October 1933, refusing reconsideration of G.O. No. 1118, P.H., dated 23rd May 1933, regarding the resolution passed by Salem Municipal Council on the accessibility to the untouchables in coffee clubs and sweetmeat shops.*

* Published in the Fort St. George Gazette, dated 14th November 1933.

† Printed as Appendix XII on pages 116-117 infra.

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^a G.O. No. 2375 I., dated 31st October 1933, regarding Thattahalla project, Kollegal taluk, Coimbatore district.

^b 4. G.O. No. 4862, L. & M., dated 23rd November 1933, passing orders on the special officer's general report on the financial position of local bodies.

^c 5. G.O. No. 5288, L. & M., dated 18th December 1933, extending term of members of certain panchayats.

^d 6. Secretary of State's evidence before the Joint Committee on Indian Constitutional Reform, Part I (11th to 28th July 1933).

^d 7. Secretary of State's evidence before the Joint Committee on Indian Constitutional Reform, Part II (3rd October to 7th November 1933).

^d 8. Report of the Public Accounts Committee on the accounts of 1931-32.

^d 9. Appropriation Accounts of the Government of Madras for 1931-32 and the Report of the Accountant-General thereon.

^d 10. Return of officers under the Government of Madras who held permanent appointments on the 1st April of each of the years from 1924 to 1933.

^d 11. Return of officers under the Government of Madras who held temporary, acting or probationary appointments on the 1st of April of each of the years from 1924 to 1933.

^d 12. G.O. No. 2461 I., dated 11th November 1933, regarding the abandonment of Kanchalamma project.

^e 13. U.O. Note No. 4210 A-4, dated the 21st December 1933, regarding answer to the supplementary question to the Legislative Council Question No. 308 answered on the 3rd November 1933.

^f 14. G.O. No. 210, L. & M., dated the 9th January 1934, regarding extension of term of members of certain taluk boards.

^g 15. G.O. No. 817, Finance, dated the 20th December 1933, regarding the acceptance of the resignation of the membership of Mr. W. O. Wright.

^h 16. Notification of a rule under sub-section (1) of section 16 of the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1931.

^a Printed as Appendix XIII on pages 117-120 infra.

^b Printed as Appendix XIV on pages 120-123 infra.

^c Published in the Fort St. George Gazette.

^d Printed separately.

^e Printed as Appendix XV on pages 123-124 infra.

^f Published in the Fort St. George Gazette.

^g Printed as Appendix XVI on page 124 infra.

^h Published in the Fort St. George Gazette.

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,

Secretary to the Legislative Council.

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APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to question No. 493 asked by Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 29th January 1934, page 21 supra.]

Number of cattle for which permits were issued in

Name of village.	1930-31.			1931-32.			1932-33.		
	Cows.	Sheep.	Buffaloes.	Cows.	Sheep.	Buffaloes.	Cows.	Sheep.	Buffaloes.
1 Alangayam ..	310	..	1	294	..	..	169	..	..
2 Badakuppam ..	42	513	..	31	359	..	529	177	..
3 Peddur ..	504	..	..	438	..	..	520	..	..
4 Rajapalaiyam ..	148	77	..	106	..	..	117	..	..
5 Pullakurupalli (Pullakur) ..	183	4	..	149	..	..	102	..	..
6 Narasingapuram ..	261	304	..	231	183	..	289	186	..

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to question No. 495 asked by S. M. K. Beyabani Sahib Bahadur at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 29th January 1934, page 22 supra.]

*Letter from the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated
21st September 1931, No. 267/31-C-3.*

[Projects not fully developed—Kurnool division—Cumbum tank.
Reference.—Paragraph 4 of G.O. No. 3210 I., dated 14th November 1930.]

An examination of the first and second-crop areas irrigated under the tank for the past ten years shows that the lowest area irrigated in any year during the period is 5,564 acres in 1925-26 while the maximum area irrigated in any year during the same period is 5,734 acres (in 1927-28). In most years 5,700 acres have been irrigated. So this acreage seems to be the maximum area irrigable at present under the tank. Either the area of 6,000 acres fixed already as the area irrigable by complete project may be reduced by 250 acres fixing it as 5,750 acres, or the difference may be ignored as being small.

2. The supply from the catchment to meet irrigation requirements under the tank appear to be quite good as evidenced by the very small variation in the area grown with first crop and by the growing of a substantial area of second crop in many years when the rainfall has been good, and there is no necessity to augment the same unless fresh area could be found under the tank, and new facilities are provided for irrigating it. There seems to be no necessity to investigate the non-development of the full ayacut, nor to increase the supply to the tank on the score that it is not sufficient.

Statement showing the maximum depth of supply in Cumbum tank and the area irrigated during the years 1921-22 to 1929-30.

Year.	First-crop period—July to December.				Second-crop period.				Reading on the 1st of			Total of first and second-crop.			
	Month.	Date.	Level.*	Extent.	Month.	Date.	Level.*	Extent.	August.	Septem-ber.	October.				
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)		(12)	(13)	
				ACS.				ACS.					ACS.		
1921-22	..	..	..	November	6 to 10	21-90	5,581	January	1	20-52	2,262	8-50	8-40	11-30	7,843
1922-23	..	..	..	Do.	29	24-90	5,647	Do.	1 to 4	24-20	3,770	13-80	16-10	13-40	9,417
1923-24	..	..	..	October	1 to 6	28-10	5,707	Do.	1	25-25	4,256	13-05	.. †	28-10	9,963
1924-25	..	..	..	November	23	23-40	5,733	Do.	1	22-85	3,231	.. †	15-80	20-70	8,964
1925-26	..	..	..	December	29	20-50	5,664	Do.	1	20-50	1,842	13-00	18-80	16-50	7,406
1926-27	..	..	..	September	16	20-30	5,642	..	..	.. †	248	17-00	13-60	19-80	5,890
1927-28	..	..	..	October	14	21-70	5,734	January	1	20-80	2,981	18-90	17-30	18-50	8,715
1928-29	..	..	..	Do.	26	16-10	5,632	..	..	.. †	207	12-00	13-50	11-60	5,839
1929-30	..	..	..	November	8	18-90	5,619	January	1	15-30	590	.. †	.. †	14-80	..
1930-31	..	..	..	Do.	7	20-70	5,442	Do.	1	18-10	889	..	..	10-50	..
1931-32	..	..	..	Do.	12	22-50	5,562	Do.	1	21-30	2,787	15-50	..	21-10	..
1932-33	..	..	..	August	8	16-80	5,407	May	25	10-20	103	13-30	16-20	2-00	..

Remarks.—The registered ayacut of the tank is 5,183-34 acres of which an extent of 2,750-28 acres is registered double crop.

* The depths given in these columns are those above sill of sluice No. I, i.e., 631-85.

† Readings not available.

N.B.—I	Sill level of Pedda Cumbum sluice	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	631-85
II	Do. Chinna Cumbum sluice	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	633-13
III	Do. Nakkalagundy sluice	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	631-60

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*Proceedings of the Irrigation Development Board, No. 41,
dated 13th October 1931.*

Submitted to Government.

2. The Irrigation Development Board observes that 95 per cent of the area irrigable is regularly cultivated with a first crop and that in good years the area grown with a second crop is very satisfactory. It, therefore agrees with the Chief Engineer that no further investigation is called for with a view to developing the irrigation of this tank.

3. The Irrigation Development Board further considers that in view of the small difference between the maximum irrigable area and the area actually irrigated, the area of 6,000 acres already fixed as the maximum irrigable area may continue.

Letter from the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works and Labour Department, dated the 22nd January 1932, C.E.P. No. 2861/31.

[Tanks—Kurnool—Cumbum tank—Wastage of water. *Reference.—*
Memorandum No. 5081-D/31-4, dated 18th November 1931.]

It is reported that there are good number of sluices in each channel which have not got shutters and locks and there are also open cuts in the channels' banks, especially in one channel instead of pipes or masonry sluices. As a result of these defects more water is drawn from the tank than is normally required and a portion of it is also wasted into the Gundlakamma lower down. By providing shutters and locks to these sluices and constructing masonry sluices in place of open cuts and providing them with shutters it is expected that the above wastage from the tank can be prevented. I have asked the Superintending Engineer to submit proposals for the improvements necessary to prevent wastage together with the estimates therefor. They will be dealt with by me on receipt from the Superintending Engineer.

2. It is also incidentally reported that the *kudimaramat labour not having been enforced* all the channels have become very badly silted up, and large quantities of moss and weeds have been allowed to grow in them. Owing to obstruction caused to the free flow, there had been wastage of water in the upper reaches to the detriment of the supply to the lands towards the tail end. I have asked the Superintending Engineer to request the Collector to issue instructions to the local Revenue Department officers for the enforcement of the Kudimaramat Act so that the channels are maintained in proper regime.

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APPENDIX III.

[Vide answer to question No. 502 asked by Mr. G. Sriramulu at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 29th January 1934, page 28 supra.]

Copy of letter from the Collector of East Godavari, dated the 26th September 1933, No. B-3-5185/33.

There were heavy floods in the Godavari thrice during the current year. On the third occasion the river rose as high as 13.9 feet above the crest of the anicut at Dowlaishweram. No damage has been caused to any public works or communications, but several villages situated within the flood-bank were inundated with the result that they had to be vacated on each occasion. One such village is Appanaramuni lanka in Razole taluk which consists of 400 houses and a population of 1,800. The whole of this village was submerged, the water in the streets rising to a depth of 3 to 6 feet on the morning of 18th September 1933. As almost all the houses were constructed with mud and as water was entering the houses, the Tahsildar, Razole, who visited the village on that day considered that it might prove dangerous to both human life and property if the village was not evacuated immediately. As the flood-bank was at considerable distance from the village, the Tahsildar engaged 15 boats for two days at Re. 1 per boat per day to enable the whole population to leave the place with their property. He did this at Government cost because the majority of the residents were poor and could not secure boats without the assistance of the local revenue officers.

Besides Appanaramuni lanka several villages in Cocanada, Razole, Rajahmundry and Amalapuram taluks were inundated with the result that some houses collapsed. There was however no loss of life. The Tahsildar, Cocanada, has submitted proposals for the grant of Rs. 12 to three inhabitants of Sila lanka, hamlet of Sila, and Rs. 40 to 18 inhabitants of Nilapalli and Georgepeta to enable them to rebuild their houses.

I, therefore, request that the Board may be pleased to sanction the amount of Rs. 82 required for the three cases mentioned above.

Another application for funds will be submitted if relief is found to be necessary in the case of other villages affected by the floods.

Copy of letter from the Collector of East Godavari, dated 26th October 1933, No. B-3-5185/33.

Owing to the recent storm and heavy rains, the Yeleru river in Peddapur taluk, the Thandava river in Tuni taluk, and several other hill streams in Polavaram and Pithapur taluks were in high floods with the result that several villages in Peddapur, Pithapur, Cocanada, Tuui and Polavaram taluks were inundated. The floods have caused considerable damage to the standing crops. It is too early to gauge the extent of the damage. It is reported that 14 houses of fishermen in Jagga-rajupeta, hamlet of Vuppada village, in Pithapur taluk were washed away

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by the sea. There was however no loss of human life or cattle. In Peddapur and Cocanada taluks several villages were inundated by the floods in the Yeleru. Krishnavaram, a village in Peddapur taluk, was the worst affected. Many houses fell down as a result of submersion and it is reported that one woman was drowned, while attempting to save her belongings. In Pithapur taluk several villages were submerged by the floods in the hill streams and it is reported that a human corpse was washed ashore in one of the hill streams in the limits of Pithapur village. In Tuni taluk, the Thandava river rose very high and the Deputy Tahsildar had to safeguard the cash, stamps, etc., in the Sub-Treasury by securing them on the record racks in his office. The floods have since subsided and the cash, stamps, etc., have been removed to the strong room.

2. The floods though severe have not caused much damage to public works and means of communication. Several houses in the affected villages have fallen down and steps are being taken to relieve immediate distress. I am awaiting further reports from the subordinate officers and will submit proposals for relief in needy cases.

Copy of letter from the Collector of East Godavari, dated 3rd November 1933, No. B-3-5185/33.

The Revenue Divisional Officer, Peddapur, has submitted proposals for the grant of relief to the flood-affected people in certain villages in Pithapur taluk as shown below:—

RS.	
77 to 12 house-holders in Jaggarajupeta, hamlet of Uppada.	
44 to 14 house-holders in Isukapalli.	
33 to 7 house-holders in Madhavapuram.	
125 to 29 house-holders in Kolanka.	

Total ... 279

In the first of the above cases the houses were washed away by the sea and in the remaining cases the damage was caused by floods in the hill streams.

2. No proposals for relief have so far been received from the Revenue Divisional Officers in respect of Tuni, Peddapur, Polavaram and Cocanada taluks. They have been requested to expedite them, if any.

3. In G.O. Ms. No. 1751, dated 2nd October 1933, Government were pleased to sanction Rs. 82 for relief of distress caused by the floods in the Godavari river in certain villages in Razole and Cocanada taluks. The Revenue Divisional Officer, Cocanada, has submitted further proposals for the grant of Rs. 121 as shown below for relief of distress caused by the floods in the Godavari in certain villages in Cocanada taluk:—

Rupees 11 to three house-holders of Georgepeta.
 Rupees 110 to 32 Adi-Andhra house-holders of Pillanka.

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4. Further the Deputy Superintendent of Police, Bhadrachalam, and the Tahsildar, Bhadrachalam, engaged two launches for Rs. 25 to enable the inhabitants of Yatapaka and Kollugudem in Bhadrachalam taluk to leave their respective villages with their property as the river rose so high as to threaten a collapse of the houses. The amount has still to be paid.

5. The total of all the above items comes up to Rs. 425. But in all likelihood something more may be required for relief being given to other afflicted persons. I therefore request that Government may be addressed to place at my disposal Rs. 500 for grant of relief. If more funds are required, I will submit another application.

6. I will submit a detailed report about the floods on the receipt of final reports from the Revenue Divisional Officers.

APPENDIX IV.

[Vide answer to question No. 508 asked by Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 29th January 1934, page 31 supra.]

(i)

G.O. Ms. No. 3402, L. & M., dated 23rd August 1933.

READ—the following papers:—

Petition from certain Member, Salem District Board, dated 4th July 1933.

Memorandum to the President, District Board, Salem, No. 27067 A-1 A-2, dated 25th July 1933.

From the President, District Board, Salem, No. 3724/33/A-6, dated 6th August 1933.

Order—Ms. No. 3402, L. & M., dated 23rd August 1933.

Recorded.

2. The Government have satisfied themselves after a scrutiny of the minutes book that there is no truth in the allegation that the typed copy of the proceedings of 28th February 1933 was pasted over the original record of proceedings made by the President, District Board, Salem, at the meeting. They do not propose to pursue the matter.

3. The President is informed that if it is not possible to record the minutes of proceedings in the minutes book at the meeting he should note down the proceedings on loose sheets of paper or on a copy of the

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agenda at the meeting and should preserve these notes as original records of the proceedings after the minutes of the proceedings have been later on drawn up on the basis of these notes and recorded in the minutes book.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Local Self-Government)

E. CONRAN SMITH,
Secretary to Government.

To the petitioners—

Mrs. P. Subbarayan, Member, Salem District Board, Tiruchengode.
The President, District Board, Salem.

(ii)

G.O. Ms. No. 4920, L. & M., dated 28th November 1933.

READ—the following paper:—

G.O. No. 3402, L. & M., dated 23rd August 1933.

Order—Ms. No. 4920, L. & M., dated 28th November 1933.

It has been represented to the Government that, in G.O. No. 3402, L. & M., dated 23rd August 1933, they have not passed orders on the specific representations made in the petition submitted on 4th July 1933 by certain members of the Salem District Board, while reference is made in the Government Order to an allegation which is not specifically made in the petition and a request has been made for revising the above Government Order.

2. The Government after obtaining the remarks of the President, District Board, Salem, on the subject-matter of the petition and after a scrutiny of the minutes book and other records of the district board and after hearing one of the signatories to the petition were satisfied that there was no incorrect recording of the proceedings by the President and that there was no reason for Government to interfere in respect of any of the charges made in the petition. It is not usual in such cases to pass orders seriatim on each of the representations made in the memorial. The usual procedure in cases in which the Government are satisfied that no interference is called for, is to 'record' the papers and the petition in question was accordingly 'recorded' in paragraph 1 of G.O. No. 3402, L. & M., dated 23rd August 1933.

3. After the submission of the petition to Government and in the course of a personal representation, one of the signatories to the petition made a further and more definite allegation which was not mentioned in the written petition. The Government considered it necessary to issue specific orders on this point and it was in this view that paragraph 2 of the Government Order was issued.

4. The Government do not, in the circumstances, consider that any revision of G.O. No. 3402, L. & M., dated 23rd August 1933, is called for.

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5. Certain instructions to the President, District Board, Salem, as to the recording of proceedings have been already issued in paragraph 3 of G.O. No. 3402, L. & M., dated 23rd August 1933. The question of issuing general instructions for the guidance of Presidents of local boards and chairmen of municipal councils in the matter of recording proceedings of meetings, is under the consideration of the Government.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Local Self-Government)

E. CONRAN SMITH,
Secretary to Government.

To the petitioners—

Mrs. P. Subbarayan, Member, Salem District Board, Tiruchengode.
The President, District Board, Salem.

APPENDIX V.

[Vide answer to question No. 509 asked by Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 29th January 1934, page 32 supra.]

G.O. Ms. No. 146, L. & M., dated 17th January 1931.

READ—the following paper:—

[From the President, District Board, Chingleput, No. 3381-C/30,
dated 4th January 1931.]

Order—Ms. No. 146, L. & M., dated 17th January 1931.

It has occasionally happened that communications have been received by presidents or chairmen of local bodies intimating the resignation of their office by members, and that these communications have subsequently been disowned or repudiated by the members in question. Precipitate action taken on such communications may lead to complications and litigation, and presidents and chairmen are, therefore, advised to make sure by an immediate reference to the member concerned that such communications are genuine before they take action thereon.

2. The Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards is requested to circularise all presidents of panchayats in the matter.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Local Self-Government)

HILTON BROWN,
Secretary to Government.

To all Presidents of District Boards with copies for Presidents of Taluk Boards.
„ the Chairmen of Municipal Councils.
„ the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards.

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APPENDIX VI.

[Vide answer to question No. 511 asked by Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 29th January 1934, page 34 supra.]

Name of the officer.	Date on which the leave commenced.	Pay drawn before leave.	Leave salary actually drawn during the period of leave.
1 Mr. P. Narayana Menon.	14th March 1932.	Rupees 305 plus a special pay of Rs. 100 less 10 per cent cut.	Rupees 393 per mensem less 10 per cent cut from 14th March 1932 to 13th July 1932. Rupees 196-8-0 per mensem from 14th July 1932 to 22nd July 1932.
2 K. Muhammad Auzum Sahib Bahadur.	Do.	Rupees 290 less 10 per cent cut.	Rupees 278-8-0 per mensem less 10 per cent cut from 14th March 1932 to 13th July 1932. Rupees 139-4-0 per mensem from 14th July 1932 to 9th May 1933.
3 Mr. C. Duraiswami Mudaliyar.	Do.	Rupees 245 less 10 per cent cut.	Rupees 232-2-0 per mensem less 10 per cent cut from 14th March 1932 to 13th July 1932. Rupees 116-1-0 per mensem from 14th July 1932 to 13th June 1933.
4 Mr. C. Chinna-swami Pillai.	13th March 1932.	Rupees 450 plus a special pay of Rs. 150 less 10 per cent cut.	Rupees 600 per mensem less 10 per cent cut from 13th March 1932 to 12th July 1932. Rupees 300 per mensem from 13th July 1932 to 30th June 1933.

APPENDIX VII.

[Vide answer to question No. 517 asked by S. M. K. Beyabani Sahib Bahadur at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 29th January 1934, page 39 supra.]

Statement showing the average number of patients attending per day from 1930-33 in each department of the Indian Medical School Hospital.

Year.	Department.			
	Ayurveda.	Siddha.	Unani.	Western medicine (minor surgical operations).
1930-31	368.28	250.02	293.68	1.26
1931-32	266.28	184.46	252.24	1.70
1932-33	240.58	191.67	212.15	1.70
1933 (April to end of September).	245.35	228.50	230.69	1.57

Statement showing the number of students of the Indian Medical School who took their diplomas and who are employed or unemployed.

Section.	Number employed.	Number unemployed.	Total.
Ayurveda	107	64	171
Unani	17	6	23
Siddha	33	23	56

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APPENDIX VIII.

[Vide answer to question No. 522 asked by Mr. A. Pl. N. V. Nadi-muthu Pillai at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 29th January 1934, page 43 supra.]

Statement showing expenditure incurred since 1920 on the construction of quarters for Government servants.

Circle.	Division.	Amount. RS.	Total. RS.
Waltair	{ Ganjam	2,01,600	9,21,989
	{ Vizagapatam	5,15,650	
	{ Koraput	2,04,739	
Dowlaisheram	{ Godavari northern	2,18,262	5,78,290
	{ Do. headworks	1,35,261	
	{ Do. eastern	1,39,860	
	{ Do. western	55,960	
	{ Do. central	28,947	
Bezwada	{ Guntur	4,34,578	10,57,602
	{ Kistna western	65,472	
	{ Do. central	1,71,033	
	{ Nellore	2,79,536	
	{ Kistna special	NIL.	
	{ Do. eastern	1,06,983	
Madras	{ North Presidency	9,30,627	28,30,776
	{ South do.	* 4,84,864	
	{ Chingleput	3,88,050	
	{ Bellary	4,46,228	
	{ Kurnool	3,19,632	
	{ Madanapalle	2,61,375	
Coimbatore	{ Coimbatore	9,90,660	23,52,470
	{ Salem	4,53,372	
	{ West Coast	6,76,872	
	{ North Arcot	2,31,566	
Tanjore	{ South Arcot	3,70,627	7,29,476
	{ Cauvery	2,32,900	
	{ Vennar	1,13,607	
	{ River Conservancy	12,342	
Trichinopoly	{ Trichinopoly	2,28,010	7,49,423
	{ Periyar	1,22,884	
	{ Tinnevely	1,38,053	
	{ Ramnad	2,60,476	
Total ..		92,20,026	

* This represents expenditure from 1922-33. The Executive Engineer reports that expenditure in regard to previous years cannot be furnished as the registers of works for these years have been destroyed.

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APPENDIX IX.

[Vide answer to question No. 523 asked by Mr. G. Simhachalam Pantulu at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 29th January 1934, page 44 supra.]

Government Technical Examinations.

Statement showing the number of Chief and Assistant Examiners (Telugus, Tamilians and others) from 1926 to 1933.,

					Total.	Telugus.	Tamilians.	Others.
1926	..	{ April	..	..	20	1	16	3
	..	{ December	..	..	22	2	18	2
1927	..	{ April	..	..	36	3	30	3
	..	{ December	..	..	15	2	12	1
1928	..	{ April	..	..	30	2	23	5
	..	{ December	..	..	17	2	14	1
1929	..	{ April	..	..	37	3	31	3
	..	{ December	..	..	13	2	10	1
1930	..	{ April	..	..	26	2	20	4
	..	{ December	..	..	12	1	9	2
1931	..	{ April	..	..	21	1	16	4
1932	..	{ April	..	..	31	1	24	6
	..	{ January	..	..	6	..	4	2
1933	..	{ April	..	..	22	..	13	9
	..	{ July	..	..	7	..	5	2

APPENDIX X.

[Vide answer to question No. 526 asked by Mr. M. Devadasan at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 29th January 1934, page 46 supra.]

Statement.

1931.	Number of candidates belonging to		
	Depressed classes.	Adi-Dravida converts to Christianity.	Other Christians.
Government Training School, Kovilpatti—			
Elementary Higher—Number applied ..	1	10	5
.. .. . admitted ..	..	7	2
.. Lower .. applied ..	24	8	..
.. .. . admitted ..	7	3	..
Government Training School, Tinnelly—			
Secondary (one year)—Number applied ..	1	2	4
.. .. . admitted ..	1	2	4
.. (two years) .. applied ..	1	4	11
.. .. . admitted ..	1	2	..
.. Elementary Higher—Number applied ..	2	7	10
.. .. . admitted ..	2	6	6

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APPENDIX XI.

[Vide answer to question No. 527 asked by Mr. M. Devadasan at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 29th January 1934, page 47 supra.]

		Number of candidates belonging to		
1932.		Depressed classes.	Adi- Dravida converts to Christi- anity.	Other Christians.
Government Training School, Koilpatti—				
Elementary Higher—	Number applied	2	12	10
“ “ “	admitted	1	3	5
“ Lower “	applied	2	7	2
“ “ “	admitted	2	7	1
Government Training School, Tinnevely—				
Secondary (one year)—	Number applied	1	..	2
“ “ “	admitted	1	..	1
“ (two years) “	applied	2	4	29
“ “ “	admitted	2	2	17
Elementary Higher—	Number applied	6	9	17
“ “ “	admitted	6	9	7

APPENDIX XII.

[Vide item XIII—Papers laid on the table of the House at page 103 supra.]

G.O. No. 2430, P.H., dated 31st October 1933.

READ—the following paper:—

From the Commissioner of the Salem Municipality, dated 22nd May 1933, R.O.C. No. 394/P.H./33.

Order—No. 2430, P.H., dated 31st October 1933.

In its resolution No. 1418, dated 17th February 1933, the Salem Municipal Council resolved that all coffee clubs and sweetmeat shops in the municipality should be made accessible to the so-called untouchables and that the resolution should be embodied in the form of a by-law. This resolution was cancelled by Government under subsection (1) of section 36 of the Madras District Municipalities Act as they considered that the contemplated by-law, if enforced, was likely to lead to a riot or an affray.

2. The Municipal Council has asked for a reconsideration of this order on the grounds that the contemplated reform is urgently needed and that the fear of a riot or disturbance is unreal.

3. In passing their orders referred to in paragraph 1 above the Government were satisfied on the report of the Collector that the resolution, if given effect to, was likely to lead to a riot or an affray. Since then they have taken legal opinions as to the competency of the Municipal Council to pass a resolution of the kind now in question and to

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embody it in a by-law and they are advised that it is beyond the power of the Municipal Council to pass a by-law laying down as one of the conditions of the licences issued for places used for a hotel or restaurant that a particular class of people should be admitted into such places. The Government therefore see no reason to reconsider their orders in G.O. No. 1118, P.H., dated 23rd May 1933.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Local Self-Government)

E. CONRAN SMITH,
Secretary to Government.

To the Commissioner of the Salem Municipality.
 „ Collector of Salem.
 „ Secretary to the Legislative Council (with copies for being placed on the table of the House).
 [with a copy of the Advocate-General's opinion.]

APPENDIX XIII.

[Vide item XIII—Papers laid on the table of the House at page 104 supra.]

G.O. No. 2375 I., dated 31st October 1933.

READ—the following papers:—

I

*Extract from Proceedings of the Legislative Council, dated
29th March 1930.*

Report on the Thattahalla project.

1676 Q.—MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether a copy of the preliminary report on the Thattahalla project and the estimated cost required for the scheme will be placed on the table of the House?

A.—The report has not yet been received by the Government. The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the latter part of the answer to question No. 1559 delivered on 18th March 1930.

MR. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO:—“ May I know, Sir, whether the hon. the Revenue Member will ask for the information and furnish it to the House? ”

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—“ Yes, Sir.”

II

Memorandum No. 6110 D/30-2, P.W. & L., dated 21st May 1930.

[Project—Coimbatore—Kollegal taluk—Thattahalla project—
Preliminary report.]

The Chief Engineer for Irrigation is requested to state when the preliminary report and estimate for the scheme will be submitted to Government.

A. G. LEACH,
Secretary to Government.

To the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

[29th January 1934]

III

Letter from M.R.Ry. Diwan Bahadur N. SWAMINATHA AYYAR Avargal, B.A., B.E., Chief Engineer for Irrigation, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works and Labour Department, dated Madras, the 14th August 1933, No. 1781/27-B-10.

[Thattahalla project—Kollegal taluk—Coimbatore—Preliminary report
Reference.—Government Memorandum No. 6110 D/30-2, dated 21st May 1930.]

The Superintending Engineer doubted in August 1932 whether a suitable site for a reservoir would be found. In his subsequent letter No. 37 I., dated 25th January 1933 (copy enclosed), the Superintending Engineer reported that there was no suitable site across the river for a tank or a reservoir. In the Executive Engineer's letter No. 62-S.E., dated 20th January 1933, forwarded with the Superintending Engineer's letter referred to above, a proposal has been made to install an hydraulic ram to irrigate the proposed area and the Superintending Engineer has been asked to submit a report thereon, which is awaited.

ENCLOSURE.

Letter from the Superintending Engineer, Coimbatore Circle, to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated 25th January 1933, No. 37 I.

[Thattahalla scheme—Kollegal taluk—Coimbatore—Gauging—
Reference.—Your No. 2214/31-B-4, dated 7th September 1932.]

The Executive Engineer, Salem Division, has now reported that there is no suitable site across the Thattahalla for a tank or a reservoir.

A copy of Executive Engineer's No. 62-S.E., dated 20th January 1933, is enclosed for your information.

Sub-enclosure.

Letter from the Executive Engineer, Salem Division, to the Superintending Engineer, Coimbatore Circle, dated Salem, 20th January 1933, No. 62-S.E.

[Gauging the Thattahalla river.]

I have inspected the above river at the proposed gauging site on 9th January 1933. The site is quite suitable with rocky bed, straight approaches and clear overfalls. It is within easy reach of the main road and arrangements can be made for a suitable person with intelligence, to go and take the readings of the gauge every morning and evening.

2. As regards the Thattahalla river, it is, in my opinion, impossible to construct a dam and form a reservoir since the river flows through the proposed irrigated area and above it, in a narrow ravine or nullah. Everywhere the land is flat and although there are numerous hills dotted about all over the area, there are not too sufficiently close

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together, so that a dam could be constructed between them to give a good sized reservoir. To put a dam up at the gauging site itself would only mean filling the ravine up and this would give a very small reservoir and quite inadequate to the requirements.

3. The suggested site for a reservoir downstream from Hanur near the hill called Chengadi Betta was also inspected but is quite unsuitable since it is about three miles below the proposed area to be irrigated and at a much lower level, and therefore it is impossible to irrigate the area. So, this site is out of the question. But I have to suggest that I believe it is possible to install a hydraulic ram at a site just below the proposed gauging weir which would supply sufficient water to irrigate the proposed area.

4. I have had levels taken and found that a head of 20 feet could be obtained. With this head I believe a ram could be obtained to supply all the water required. I propose writing to Messrs. Harrison and Crossfield, Limited, of Quilon, Travancore, who are the Agents for "Blake's Hydrams" and asking them for their opinion as to whether a ram could be supplied for this purpose and what would be the cost. On receipt of their reply I will address you again on the matter.

IV

*Chief Engineer's Memorandum No. 1781/27 B-11, dated
3rd October 1933.*

[Thattahalla project, Kollegal taluk, Coimbatore district.]

In the circumstances explained by the Executive Engineer, Salem Division, in his letter No. 996-S.E., dated 9th September 1933, the Chief Engineer for Irrigation agrees with the Superintending Engineer that the scheme for utilizing the waters of the Thattahalla stream may be abandoned.

N. SWAMINATHA AYYAR,
Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

To the Superintending Engineer, Coimbatore Circle.

Endorsement—No. 1781/27 B.E.P., dated 3rd October 1933.

Copy with an extract from the Executive Engineer's report referred to, forwarded to the Secretary to Government, Public Works and Labour Department, in continuation of letter No. 1781/27-B-10, dated 14th August 1933.

N. SWAMINATHA AYYAR,
Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

To the Secretary to Government, Public Works and Labour Department.

[29th January 1934]

ENCLOSURE.

*Extract of report from the Executive Engineer, Salem Division,
No. 996-S.E., dated 9th September 1933.*

I have corresponded with the firm of Messrs. Harrison and Crossfield, Limited, Quilon, and I have received their reply . . . From this it will be seen that the scheme is not feasible since the amount of water required is far in excess of what is possible to obtain by pumping with hydraulic rams, taking into account the amount of water available in the stream.

This is due, I presume, to the great loss incurred with this kind of pump.

Therefore, I consider the scheme can be considered impossible and dropped unless it is proposed to install and use some other kind of pump, petrol, oil or steam which have a higher efficiency ratio but these will require careful maintenance and a staff, of at least one man, permanently to run and look after them.

Order—No. 2375 I., dated 31st October 1933.

Recorded.

(By order the Governor in Council)

N. GOPALASWAMI,
Secretary to Government.

To the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

„ Board of Revenue.

„ Revenue Department.

„ Secretary, Legislative Council (with 175 copies to be placed on the Council table).

APPENDIX XIV.

[Vide item XIII—Papers laid on the table of the House at page 104 supra.]

G.O. No. 4862, L. & M., dated 23rd November 1933.

The Government are pleased to issue the following orders on the report of the Special Officer, Mr. T. Sivarama Setu Pillai, on the financial position of local bodies communicated in Memorandum No. 10880-1/B-1, L. & M., dated 9th May 1933.

2. *Paragraphs 12 and 23 of the report—Avenues.*—District boards and district board engineers are requested to devote greater attention to the maintenance and development of avenues and to endeavour to secure a steadily growing income from this source of revenue.

3. *Paragraphs 19 (1), 46 and 49 (2) of the report—Expenditure on establishments.*—The maximum limits laid down for expenditure on

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district and taluk board establishments in the rule issued with G.O. No. 1778, L. & M., dated 16th May 1932, should in no case be exceeded. Where the existing scales of pay involve expenditure in excess of the prescribed maximum limit, the district or taluk board concerned should revise the scales of pay in accordance with the Special Officer's recommendation.

4. *Paragraph 19 (ii)—Communications.*—The Government cannot accept the suggestion that panchayats may be allowed to lay out and maintain village roads without the necessity to follow the formal Public Works Department procedure and without the supervision or assistance of the district engineering staff.

5. *Paragraph 19 (iii) of the report—Expenditure on secondary schools.*—The Government do not approve the suggestions of the Special Officer in respect of introduction of uniform scales of pay for the staff in board secondary schools nor in respect of fixing the strength of the staff in each school nor in respect of prescribing a maximum for the net cost of each school.

6. *Paragraph 19 (iv) of the report—Public health.*—The Government are not prepared to take over the public health services now administered by local bodies.

7. *Paragraph 24 of the report—Bus licence-fees.*—Maximum rates for licence fees on buses have been fixed in a Bill recently passed by the Local Legislative Council.

8. *Paragraph 25 (b)—Levy of fees from well-to-do patients in medical institutions.*—The Government do not consider it necessary to make any change in the existing practice.

9. *Paragraph 27 of the report—The maintenance of road motor services by district boards.*—The question will be considered in connexion with the proposal for the co-ordination of road development with railways.

10. *Paragraph 41 of the report—General suggestions for improving the revenues of district boards.*—The Government are unable to accept the suggestions contained in this paragraph.

11. *Paragraph 61 of the report.*—The Government agree with the Special Officer that the replacement of municipal dispensaries by aided dispensaries would be one method of reducing the expenditure of municipal councils on medical relief, but they consider that such a step is not practicable at the present time.

The question of provincializing taluk headquarter medical institutions which are now under the control of local bodies and also that of introducing cheaper and more modern conservancy methods are under the consideration of Government.

[29th January 1934]

12. *Paragraph 62 of the report—Property tax.*—The Government cannot accept the suggestion that appeals against municipal taxes should lie to a court. They consider it unnecessary to fix any time-limit for the presentation of revision petitions against property tax assessments. Section 89 of the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, imposes an obligation on owners of properties to give notice to the chairman about the construction or reconstruction of buildings. No further provision of law is required in this regard.

The Government trust that the appointment of commissioners of municipalities will lead to an improvement in the assessment and collection of taxes.

13. *Paragraph 63 of the report.*—The Government of India have refused to permit the income-tax department to furnish any particulars for the assessment of profession tax.

14. *Paragraph 64 of the report.*—The Special Officer's suggestions for the development of the income from markets are commended to municipal councils for adoption.

The question of fixing maximum rates for the licence fees on the various trades is under the consideration of the Government.

The period of repayment of loans for electric lighting schemes should be ordinarily limited to 20 years as at present. Municipal councils are advised to form special committees with a proportion of business men serving thereon under section 24 of the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, to administer electrical undertakings.

15. *Paragraph 65 of the report.*—The Government are unable to accept the suggestion that contributions by municipal councils from the general revenues to the Elementary Education Fund should be discontinued, since the discontinuance of the contribution would in most cases, result in a serious deficit in the Elementary Education Fund.

16. *Paragraph 67 of the report.*—Municipal councils are advised to augment their income from the property tax on non-agricultural lands and from the tax on entertainments as far as practicable. Local bodies are also advised to improve their income from profession tax.

The suggestions of the Special Officer regarding the levy of taxes on retail sales and on betting are not acceptable. Ground-rents collected in municipal towns in excess of a flat rate of Rs. 6-4-0 per acre are already transferred to municipal councils. The tax on circumstances and property is not levied in this Presidency.

17. The other suggestions of the Special Officer relating to elementary education are under the consideration of Government in connexion with general questions such as the consolidation and concentration of schools and the Government do not consider it necessary to pass any specific orders at present.

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18. Separate orders will be issued on the other suggestions contained in the report.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Local Self-Government)

E. CONRAN SMITH,
Secretary to Government.

To all Presidents of District Boards.
 „ all Presidents of Taluk Boards.
 „ all Chairmen of Municipal Councils.
 „ all Collectors.
 „ the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards.
 „ the Examiner of Local Fund Accounts.
 „ the Surgeon-General (with copy of report).
 „ the Director of Public Health (with copy of report).
 „ the Sanitary Engineer (with copy of report).
 „ the Director of Town-Planning (with copy of report).
 „ the Law (Education) Department.
 „ the Finance Department.
 „ the Public Works and Labour Department (with copy of report).
 „ the Revenue Department (with copy of report).
 „ the Secretary, Legislative Council, for placing the Government Order on the table of the Legislative Council.

APPENDIX XV.

[Vide item XIII—Papers laid on the table of the House at page 104 supra.]

LAW (GENERAL) DEPARTMENT.

U.O. NOTE No. 4210 A-4, DATED THE 21ST DECEMBER 1933.

COMMUNICATION TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

With reference to the answer to the supplementary question to the Legislative Council Question No. 308 answered on the 3rd November 1933, the information contained in the annexure hereto is placed on the table of the House.

V. N. VISWANATHA RAO,
Secretary to Government.

To the Secretary, Legislative Council Office.

ANNEXURE.

Question No. 308—Starred.

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER.

Will the Hon'ble the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any post-mortem shed in Yedapadi in the Salem district;

(b) whether there are proposals to construct any, if there is none there;

(c) if so, at what stage it is and when it is likely to be finished; and

(d) where post-mortem is being conducted there now?

[29th January 1934]

Answer.

(a) No.

(b) and (c) There is a proposal to construct a post-mortem shed at Yedapadi at an estimated cost of Rs. 860, but no provision has been included for it in the budget estimates for 1934-35 as the work has not been considered urgent.

(d) Post-mortem is now being conducted at Yedapadi in the open behind the dispensary building.

APPENDIX XVI.

[Vide item XIII—Papers laid on the table of the House at page 104 supra.]

G.O. No. 817, Finance, dated 20th December 1933.

READ—the following paper:—

From Mr. W. O. WRIGHT, M.L.C., dated 8th December 1933.

Order—No. 817, Finance, dated 20th December 1933.

The Government are pleased to accept the resignation tendered by Mr. W. O. Wright, M.L.C., of his membership of the Standing Finance Committee of the Madras Legislative Council.

(By order of the Governor in Council)

S. A. VENKATARAMAN,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

To W. O. Wright, Esq., M.L.C.

„ all Members of the Finance Committee.

„ the Accountant-General.

„ all Secretaries to Government.

„ all Departments of the Secretariat (all sections).

Copy to the Legislative Council for communication to the Members of the Legislative Council.